SUKEDACHI NINE

助太刀09

SEISHI KISHIMOTO PRESENTS

岸本聖史 1

SUKEDACHI NINE
助太刀09

*Armor: [illegible] = "Assistor"

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mirror:1 BOND ——— 003

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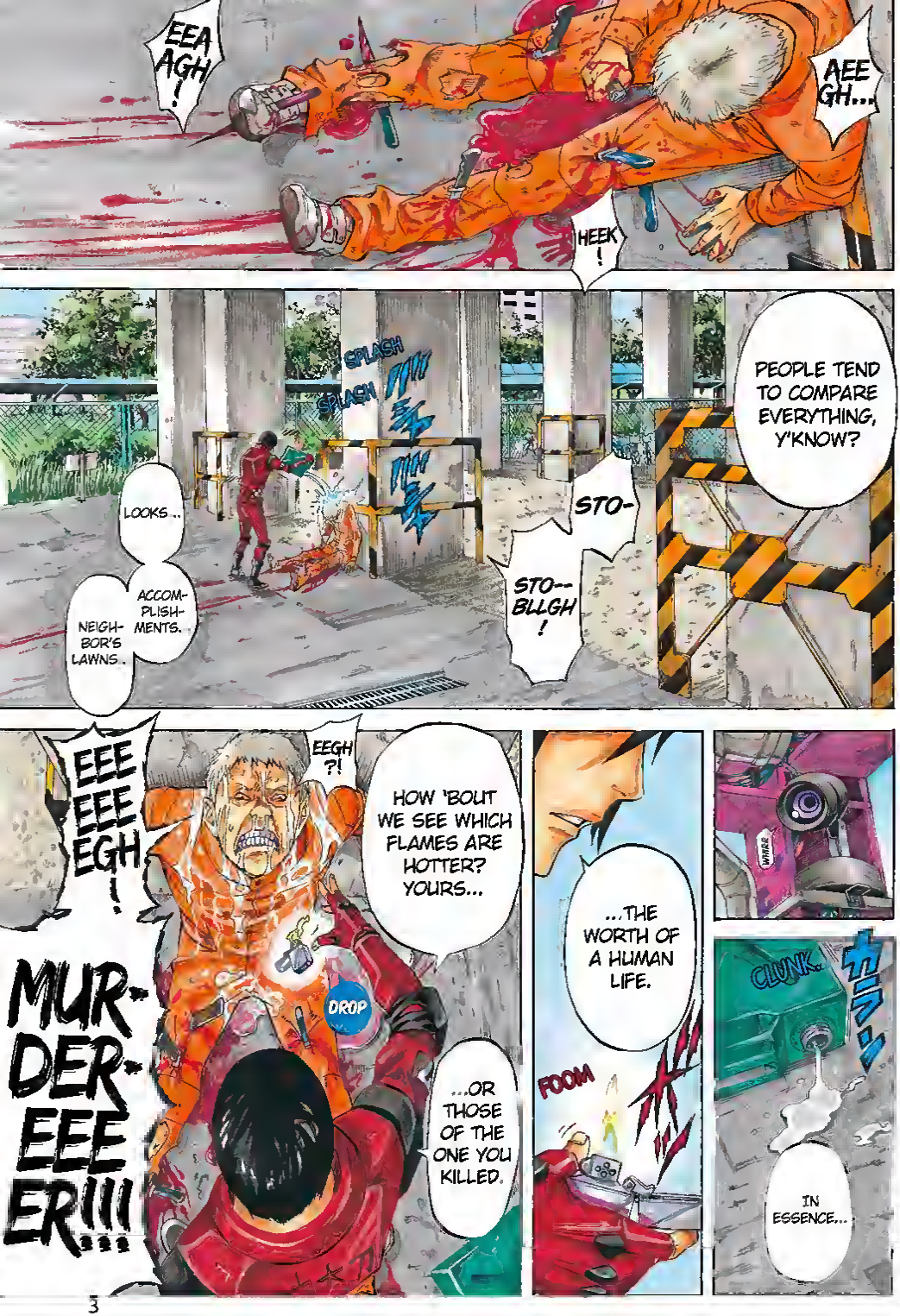
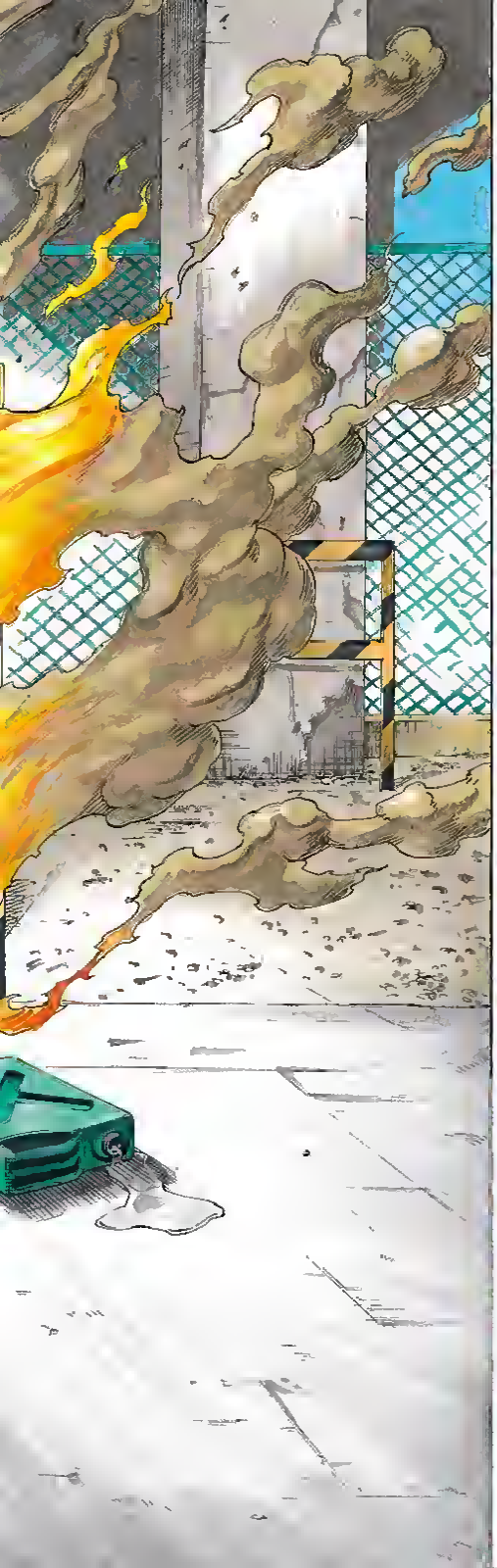
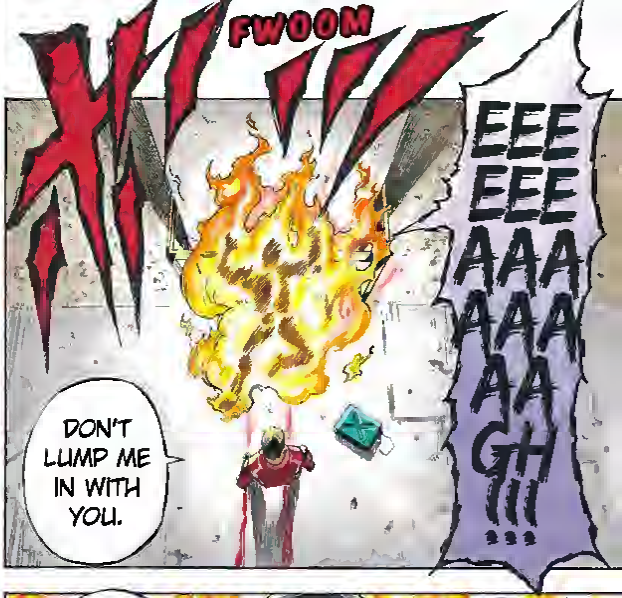
mirror:5 FACE ——— 187

masked man's kanji: Mirror

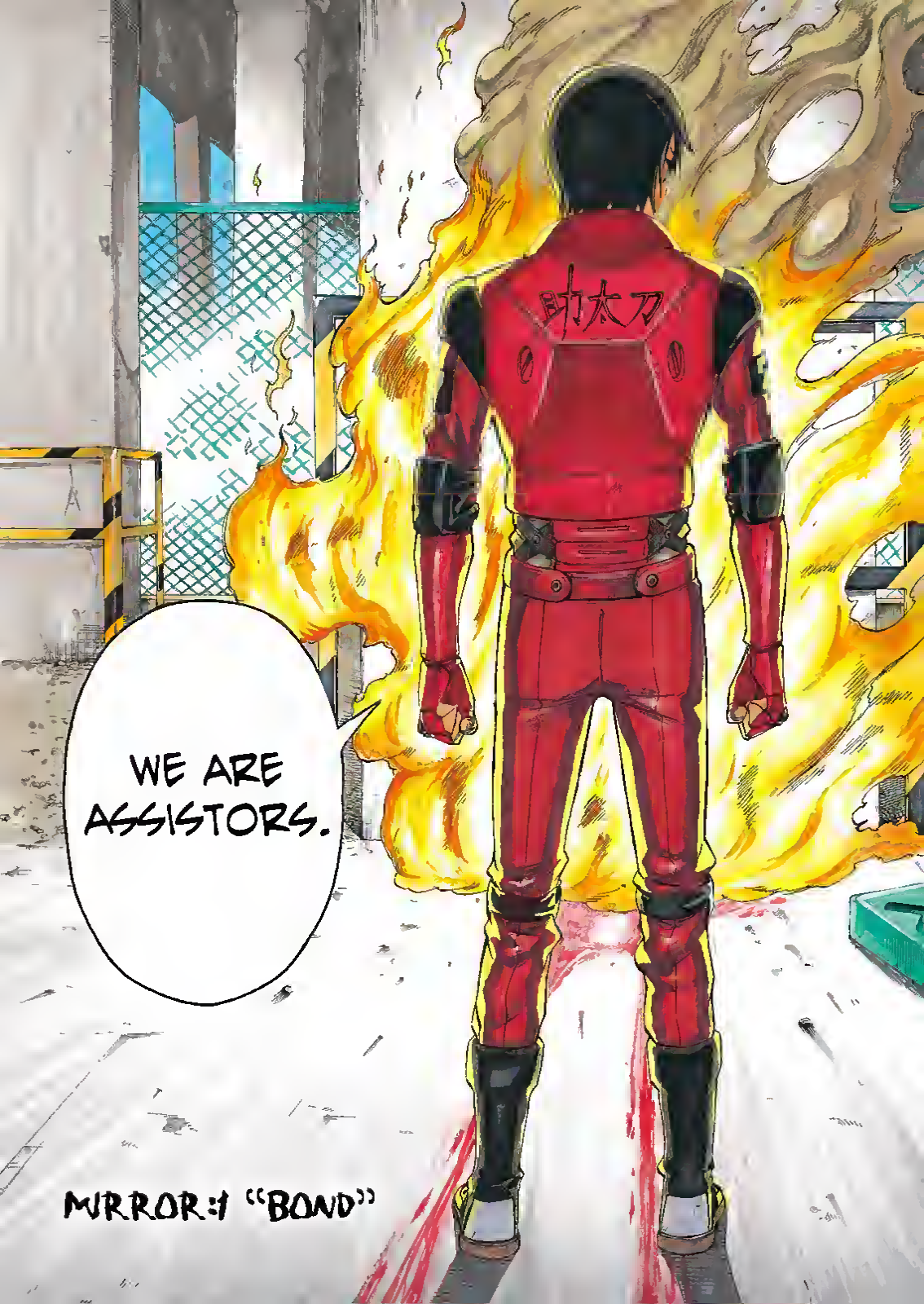

EEA AGH!
AEE GH...
HEEK!
SPLASH
SPLASH
PEOPLE TEND TO COMPARE EVERYTHING, Y'KNOW?
STO-
STO--BLLGH!
LOOKS..
ACCOM-PLISH-MENTS.
NEIGH-BOR'S LAWNS.
EEE EEE EGH!
EEGH?!
HOW 'BOUT WE SEE WHICH FLAMES ARE HOTTER? YOURS...
DROP
MUR-DER-EEE ER!!!
...OR THOSE OF THE ONE YOU KILLED.
...THE WORTH OF A HUMAN LIFE.
FOOM
WHIRR
CLUNK
ガラ...
IN ESSENCE...




FWOOM
EEE EEE AAA AAA AA GH !!!
DON'T LUMP ME IN WITH YOU.

...ARE NOT MUR-DERERS...
WE...

Sukedachi
助太刀

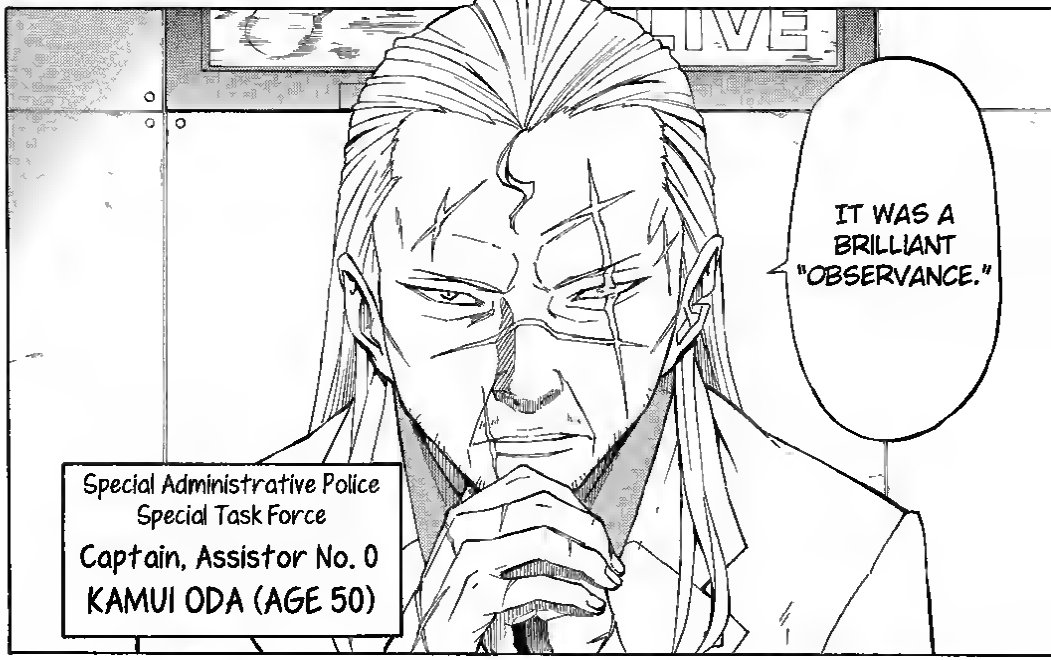


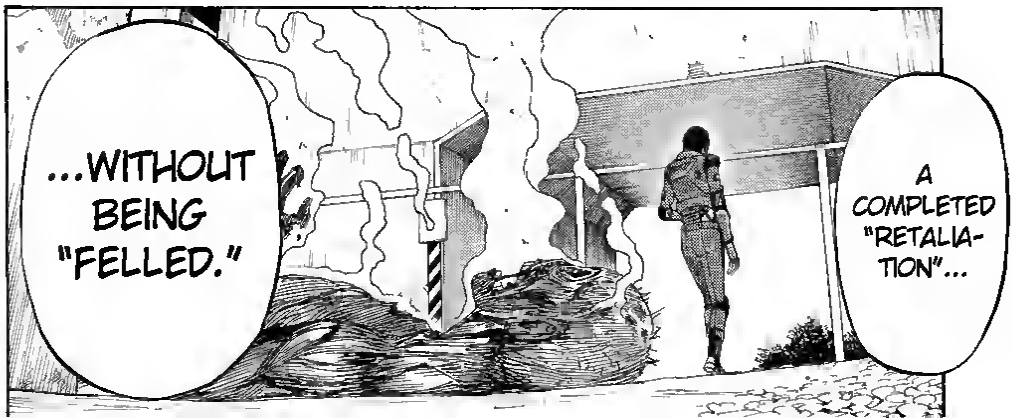
MIRROR:1 "BOND"

SUKEDACHI NINE
助太刀09

SWITCHING VIEW FROM THE 3D VISOR...
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
LIVE
LIVE
...TO THE MONITOR IN FRONT.
BWEEM
FLASH
DEATH ROW INMATE RINJI KYOUYAMA IS DEAD.
HE HAS BEEN EXECUTED IN THE EXACT SAME MANNER...
...AS HIS VICTIM, YOUR LATE HUSBAND, YES?

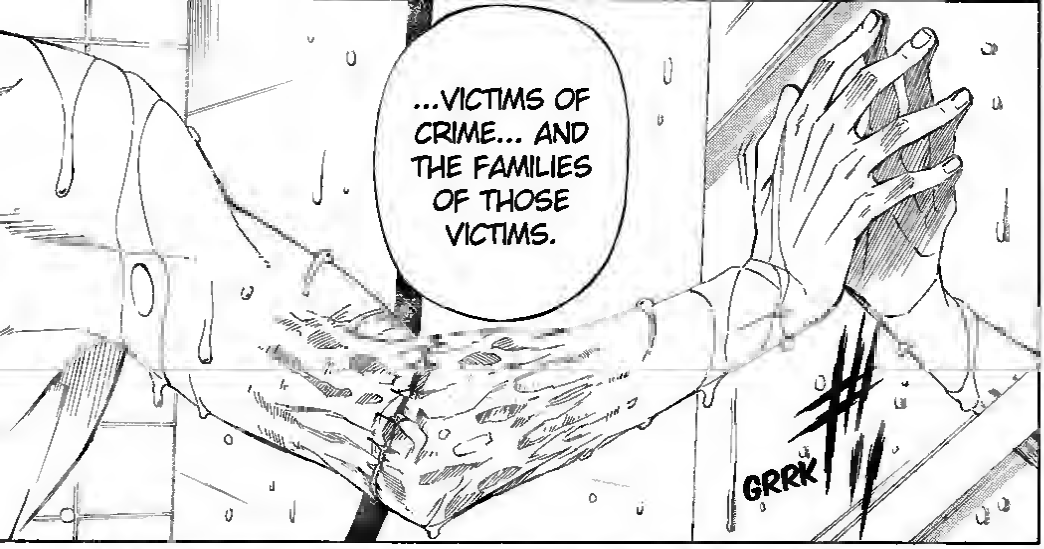
YOU ARE THE "AVENGER" HERE.
CREAK
...I KILLED KYOUYAMA WITH MY OWN TWO HANDS...
THROUGH THIS VISOR, IT FELT LIKE...
YES.

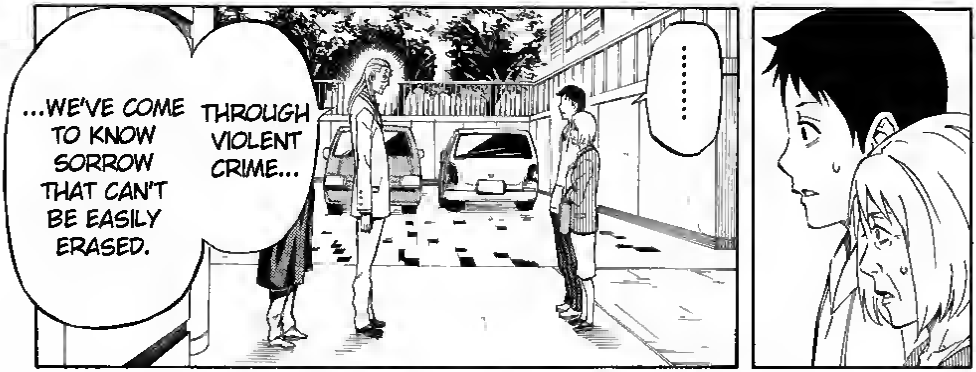

IT WAS A BRILLIANT "OBSERVANCE."
Special Administrative Police
Special Task Force
Captain, Assistor No. 0
KAMUI ODA (AGE 50)


...WITHOUT BEING "FELLED."
A COMPLETED "RETALIA-TION"...

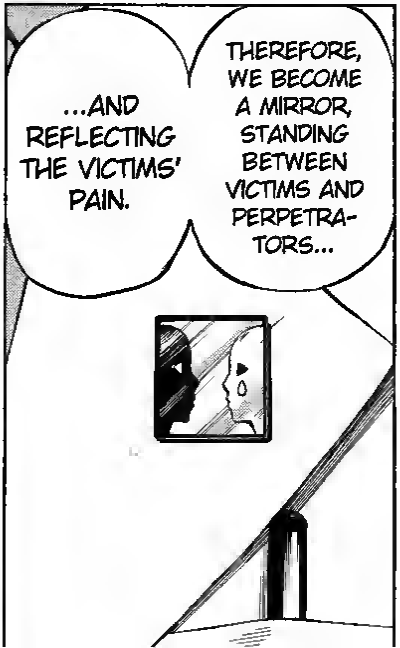
[Administrative Police Special Task Force]
司法警察特殊執行隊
FINALLY... KYOUYAMA HAS FINALLY...
...EXPERIENCED THE SAME SUFFERING AS MY HUSBAND... *SOB*
BEFORE, I WAS AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY BY RETALIATION...
...WHENEVER IT WAS ENFORCED.
BUT WHEN I LEARNED OF MY HUSBAND'S MURDER AND HOW HE DIED...
...RETALIATION BECAME EVERYTHING.
I NOW BELIEVE...
...THAT MY HUSBAND CAN REST IN PEACE, AND THOSE HE LEFT BEHIND CAN MOVE ON.
THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING.
PLEASE RAISE YOUR HEADS.
THIS IS OUR JOB AS THE SPECIAL TASK FORCE...
AS THE "ASSISTORS"!

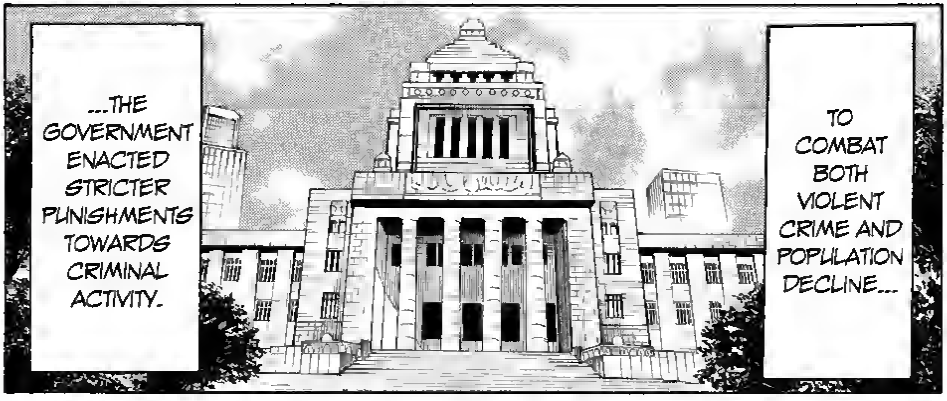
ONLY PEOPLE WITH A CERTAIN HIGH APTITUDE CAN BECOME ASSISTORS.
...PUT THEIR LIVES ON THE LINE FOR MURDER VICTIMS' FAMILIES LIKE US?
BUT EVEN IF IT'S A JOB, HOW CAN THE ASSIS-TORS...
IN OTHER WORDS...
...AND THEY MUST BE PREPARED TO SEE THAT SENTI-MENT THROUGH.
IT MUST BE A SENTIMENT FELT FROM THE DEPTHS OF THEIR HEARTS...
THEY MUST HOLD A DEEP HATRED FOR CRIME, AND THEY MUST SYMPATHIZE WITH THE VICTIM'S FAMILIES.
...WE ASSISTORS ARE ALSO...


...VICTIMS OF CRIME... AND THE FAMILIES OF THOSE VICTIMS.
GRRK

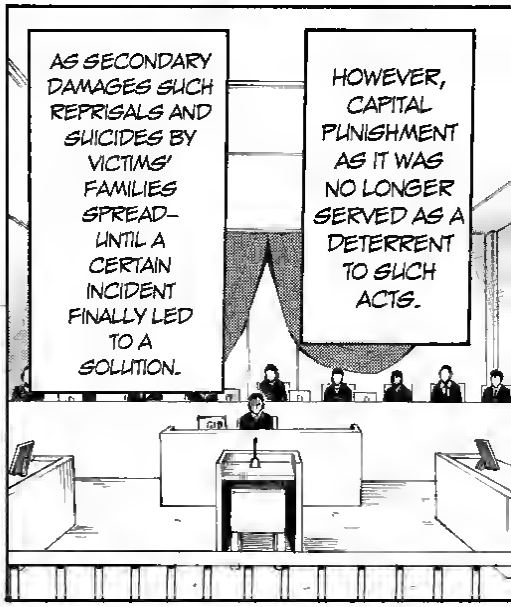

...WE'VE COME TO KNOW SORROW THAT CAN'T BE EASILY ERASED.
THROUGH VIOLENT CRIME...
.....

...AND THUS DETER THE POTENTIAL OCCURRENCE OF THESE GRUESOME INCIDENTS.
I BELIEVE THAT CAPITAL PUNISHMENT BY RETALIATION...
...WILL DRIVE FEAR INTO THOSE WHO SEEK TO COMMIT VIOLENT CRIME...


...AND REFLECTING THE VICTIMS' PAIN.
THEREFORE, WE BECOME A MIRROR, STANDING BETWEEN VICTIMS AND PERPETRATORS...


...THE GOVERNMENT ENACTED STRICTER PUNISHMENTS TOWARDS CRIMINAL ACTIVITY.
TO COMBAT BOTH VIOLENT CRIME AND POPULATION DECLINE...

...WAS RESURRECTED AND GIVEN THE HIGHEST CLASS AS A DEATH SENTENCE.
THROUGH THE AMENDMENT OF JAPAN'S CONSTITUTION ARTICLE 36, "DEATH BY RETALIATION," A BRAND OF EXECUTION THAT EXISTED UP TO THE BEGINNING OF THE MEIJI ERA...


AS SECONDARY DAMAGES SUCH REPRISALS AND SUICIDES BY VICTIMS' FAMILIES SPREAD– UNTIL A CERTAIN INCIDENT FINALLY LED TO A SOLUTION.
HOWEVER, CAPITAL PUNISHMENT AS IT WAS NO LONGER SERVED AS A DETERRENT TO SUCH ACTS.

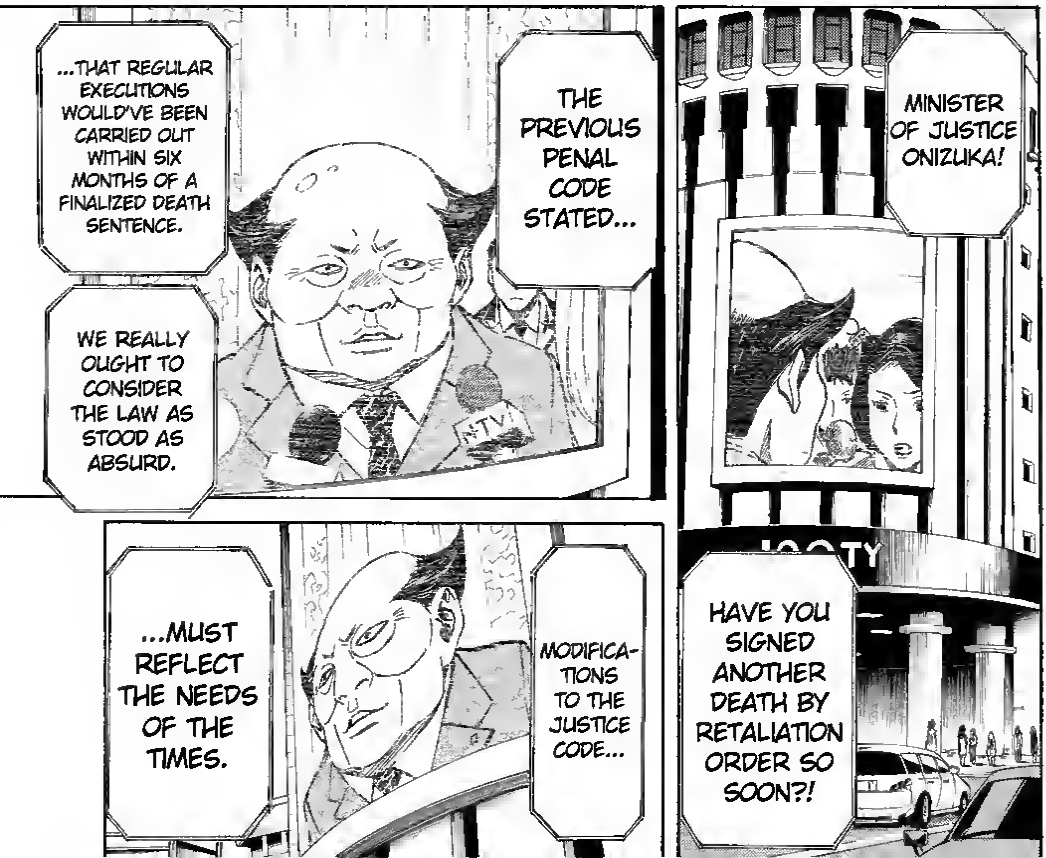
※ Article 36 forbids torture and cruel and unusual punishment.

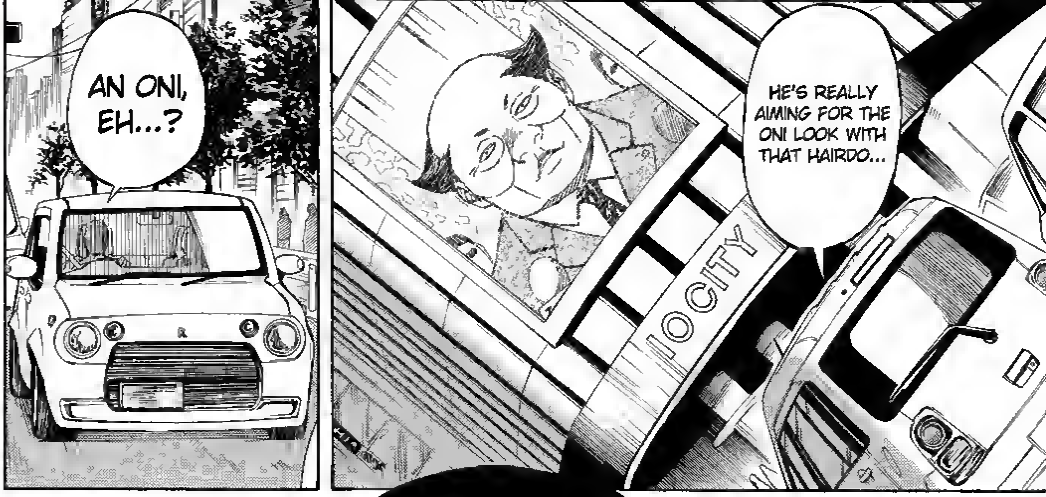
Penal Code Article 11.2 "Death by Retaliation"

1- The death row inmate shall, during the duel, be executed in the same manner in which their victim was killed.

2- After strict review, the victim's family's request for execution will be carried out by an enforcer of the Special Administrative Police.

3- If the inmate fells the enforcer during the duel, their execution by retaliation expires, and they are given 3 years' amnesty and the right to be euthanized.


...that regular executions would've been carried out within six months of a finalized death sentence.
The previous penal code stated...
We really ought to consider the law as stood as absurd.
...must reflect the needs of the times.
Modifications to the justice code...
Minister of Justice Onizuka!
Have you signed another death by retaliation order so soon?!

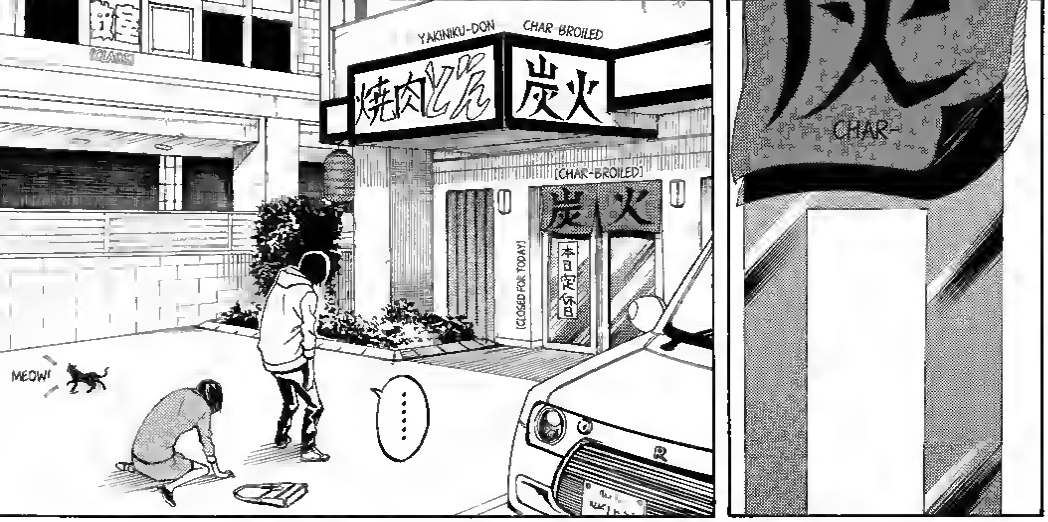

AN ONI, EH...?
HE'S REALLY AIMING FOR THE ONI LOOK WITH THAT HAIRDO...
LOCITY

HE AIN'T SO DIFFER-ENT...
...COMPARED TO A CERTAIN SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T THINK TWICE ABOUT BOSSING ME AROUND.
mutter
Self-proclaimed part-timer
YUUJI YAMAGISHI (AGE 24)

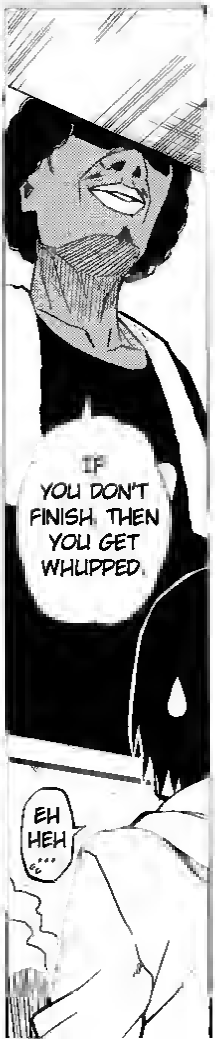
CRAP, SHE HEARD ME...
YOU TALKING ABOUT ME?!
WHAT WAS THAT, YUUJI ?!
Journalist
HARUKA YANASE
(AGE 24)

WHA--
QUIT DOING A FULL STOP AT EVERY SINGLE STUPID CROSSING!
THERE'S NO STOP SIGN ON THIS SIDE, SO STEP ON IT!
OTHER-WISE WE'LL HAVE DINNER FOR OUR LUNCH!
...WHAT'RE YOU LOOK-ING AWAY FOR?!
screee
Stop
I JUST DON'T WANT MY BABE OF A CAR HERE...
...TO GET WRECKED IN AN ACCIDENT, OKAY?
SHE'S THE ONI HERE.
SHE'S THE SAME SINCE WE MET AS KIDS, ALWAYS PRICKLY...
JOURNALISTS ARE BUSY AS HELL, UNLIKE YOU PART-TIMERS!
YOU NEVER REALLY GOT OVER BEING THAT KIND OF MOUSEY, EXTRA-CAUTIOUS TYPE, HUH?
Seriously..
Edge
.....
VRRM
HAVE YOU EVER HEARD OF THE PHRASES "PROBABLY" AND "MIGHT" DRIVING?
MIGHT... PROB... WHA?

SCREECH
WHOA!!!
YAA AGH!
ZWOOM
.....
THE YAKINIKU JOINT...
RRGH!
NOT EVENING LISTENING! SOME JOURNA-LIST YOU ARE!
WE'RE NOT IN A WRECK BECAUSE OF THAT THINKING.
...AND THINKING THAT SOMETHING MIGHT PASS THROUGH.
CRAP
SEE? I TOLD YOU.
THERE'S A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THINKING THAT SOMETHING PROBABLY WON'T PASS THROUGH...


YAKINIKU-DON
CHAR BROILED
焼肉ドン
炭火
[CHAR-BROILED]
炭火
本日定休日
[CLOSED FOR TODAY]
MEOW!
……
CHAR-

!


IF YOU DON'T FINISH, THEN YOU GET WHUPPED.
EH HEH…

HEY, YUUJI! YOUR THUMB'S WAY DEEP IN THE SOUP!
HMMN?

THUD
'EY! ONE SPECIAL MY COOK RAMEN FOR YOU.

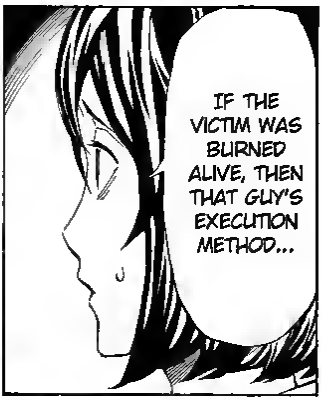
①Wakame
②Nori
③Fried rice
④Bamboo shoots
⑤Chashu pork
⑥Green onion
みそ
Miso
ねぎ
キムチ
メンマ
チャーハン
タマゴ
わかめ
ビール
メシ
Rice
Beer
Special My Cook Ramen 700 Yen
HAVE SOME GYOZA ON THE HOUSE, YUUJI.
ズボー
LOOOOM
YOW!
…AND WE'RE BACK TO RAMEN, AS USUAL…
TAP
コト
TH-THANKS, MIKE.

WAUGH! OH, THAT'S FILTHY! NOW MY RAMEN'S ALL INFECTED!
AREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO SAY "THAT'S HOT"?!
THAT THUMB'S BEEN IN THERE FOR A WHILE, TOO!
Are you all right?
SPLASH!
...HEY HARU, YOUR CHASHU LOOKS BIGGER THAN MINE.
WHA?!
!
HOLD ON A MINUTE... PEOPLE WOULD NORMALLY NOTICE!
...HUH? DIDN'T SOMETHING LIKE THIS HAPPEN BEFORE...?
THE MAN WHO BURNED HIS CO-WORKER TO DEATH IN CHIBA...
YOU REALLY OUGHTTA STOP COMPARING STUFF SO MUCH!
UH-UH! NO EXCHANGE!
TSK.
Slide

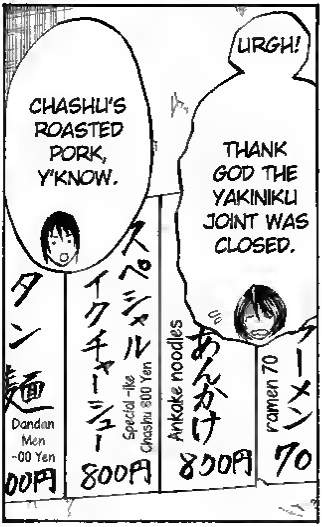
...DEATH ROW INMATE RINJI KYOU-YAMA...
恐山淪次(56)
Rinji Kyouyama (age 56)
...WAS EXECUTED BY RETALIATION YESTERDAY.
仇討死刑 執行される
INMATE EXECUTED BY RETALIATION
SHORP

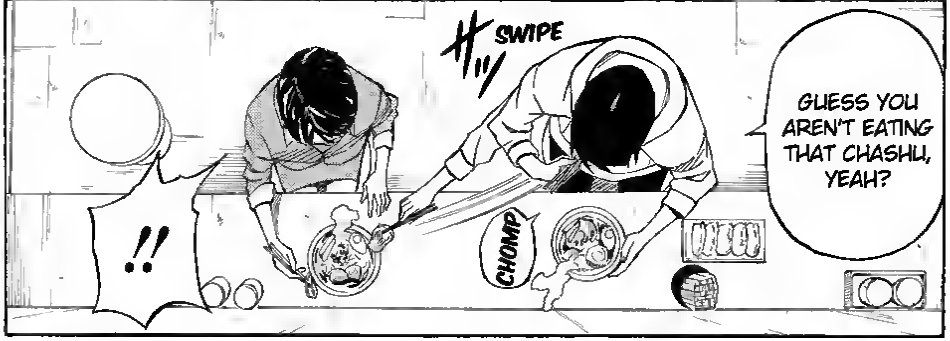
YA THINK SO?
HAHMN...

YEAH, BUT DEATH BY RETALIATION STILL BOILS DOWN TO TAKING SOMEONE ELSE'S LIFE, RIGHT?
Cha... chashu...
NOTHING'S SUPPOSED TO BE MORE SACRED THAN HUMAN LIFE...

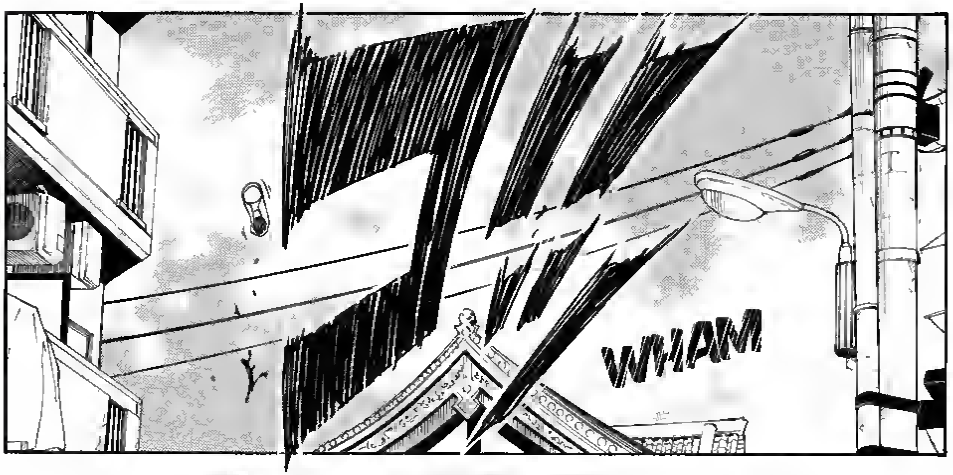

IF THE VICTIM WAS BURNED ALIVE, THEN THAT GUY'S EXECUTION METHOD...

I WONDER WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE THEY ARE.
THOSE "ASSIS-TORS"...
I'D LIKE TO INTERVIEW THEM, EVEN IF IT'S JUST ONCE.


URGH!
CHASHU'S ROASTED PORK, Y'KNOW.
THANK GOD THE YAKINIKU JOINT WAS CLOSED.
タン麺
Dandan Men -00 Yen
00円
スペシャルイクチャーシュー
Special-like Chashu 800 Yen
800円
Ankake noodles
あんかけ
800円
ラーメン
ramen 70
70

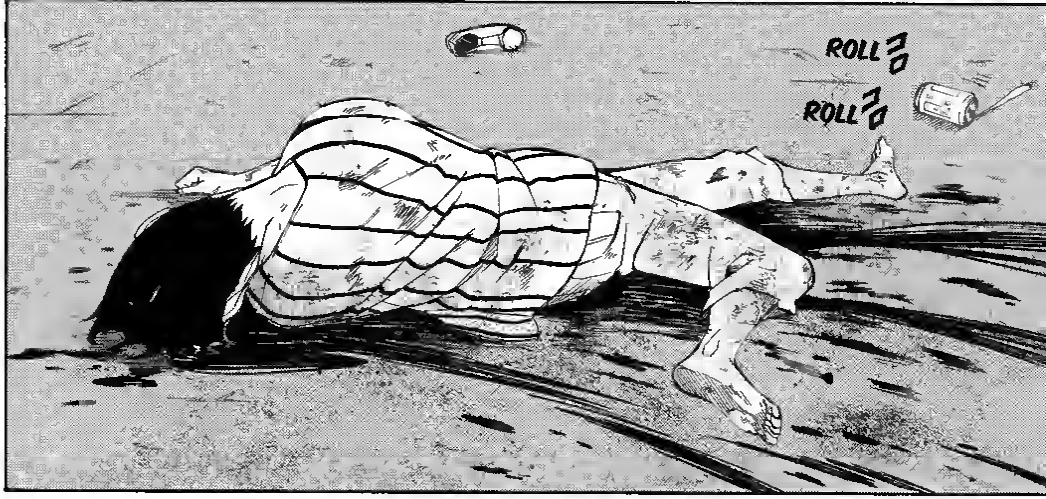

SWIPE
!!
CHOMP
GUESS YOU AREN'T EATING THAT CHASHU, YEAH?

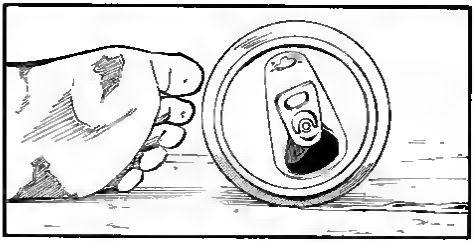
マイクック
My Cook Ramen
らーめん
NOTHING'S SCARIER THAN GRUDGES OVER FOOD.
HRRGH!
WHAM
WHADDYA THINK YOU'RE DOING, JERK-ASS?!

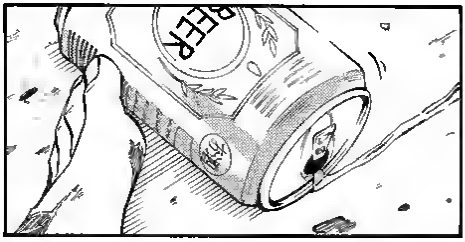

WHAM

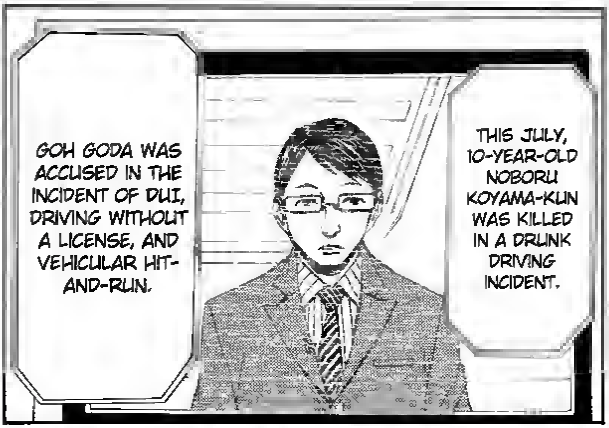
DON'T HANG 'ROUND THE SIDE OF THE ROAD LIKE A DAMN ROACH.
SERI-OUSLY...
HIC
BEER
HUHN? DID I JUST HIT SOME-THING?
KA-TUP

SCREE-EEE-EEEEE
KA-WHAP
内科 精神科 野田医院
Internal Medicine Noda Clinic


ROLL
ROLL




BEER


GOH GODA WAS ACCUSED IN THE INCIDENT OF DUI, DRIVING WITHOUT A LICENSE, AND VEHICULAR HIT-AND-RUN.
THIS JULY, 10-YEAR-OLD NOBORU KOYAMA-KUN WAS KILLED IN A DRUNK DRIVING INCIDENT.

HSSSSZ
NEXT UP...

...KNOWN AS "FATAL INJURY CAUSED BY RECKLESS AND VIOLENT DRIVING."
DURING HIS TRIAL, HIS CRIMES WERE CLASSIFIED UNDER A NEW CATEGORY...

...THE COURTS DECIDED TO SENTENCE GODA TO DEATH BY RETALIATION.
Death by Retaliation is Decided
仇討死刑判決
Goh Goda
被告 (28)
age (28)
UPON A STRINGENT REVIEW OF NOBORU-KUN'S FAMILY'S REQUEST...

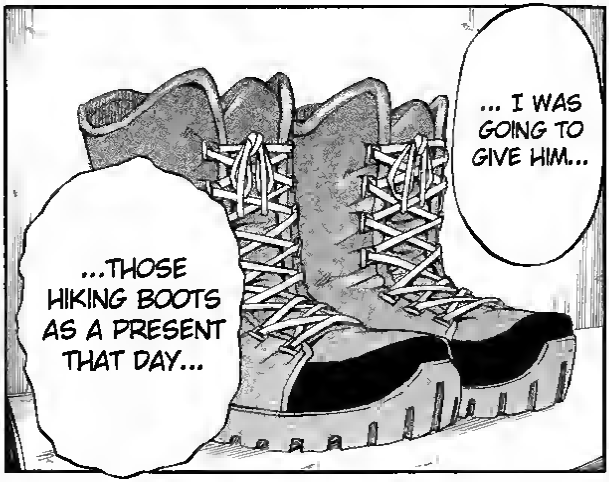
WE APOLOGIZE FOR INTER-RUPTING.
.....
NEXT UP IS...

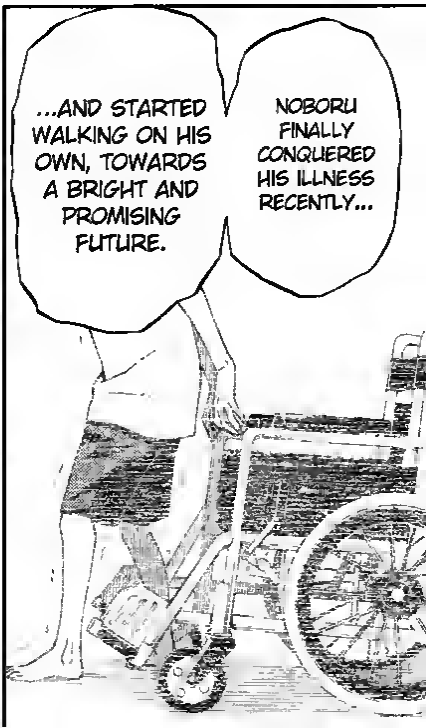
Oyama-in - Noboru, Upper Sudihana
...OUR DEEPEST CONDOLENCES OVER NOBORU-KUN'S DEATH.
大山院昇上童子
WE THE ASSISTORS WISH TO OFFER YOU...

YOU CAUGHT ME IN A SORRY STATE, GENTLEMEN...
BUT...
...I THOUGHT IF I PUT NOBORU'S MEAL OUT LIKE THIS...
...THEN HE'D EVENTUALLY JUST SHOW UP AND SAY "I'M HUNGRY" AND...!
WHAT GODA DID WAS NO DIFFERENT THAN A STREET SLASHER SWINGING A BLUNT OBJECT.
AN OBJECT WEIGHING SEVERAL TONS...
HOWEVER, THE WITNESS TO THE RETALIATION...
...WILL AGREE TO MAINTAIN THE UTMOST CONFIDENTIALITY REGARDING ALL THAT OCCURS, FROM THE CHOSEN ENFORCER DOWN TO THE ARENA OF EXECUTION.
BY LAW, WE ASSISTORS WILL CARRY OUT YOUR RETALIATION IN YOUR STEAD.

EXCUSE ME, SIR, BUT WHAT IS THIS WHEELCHAIR FOR?
...I UNDERSTAND...
IT'S BEEN NOTHING BUT TRIPS TO AND FROM THE HOSPITAL FOR HIM.
HE'S BEEN FRAIL SINCE HE WAS LITTLE.
IT'S NOBORU'S...
TURN 7
Kaikouyama
ISN'T THIS VIEW SPECTACULAR?!
TURN AROUND, OR I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING!
THAT'S WHY HE LOVED THE GREAT OUTDOORS.
I WOULD ALWAYS CARRY HIM ON MY BACK AND TAKE HIM HIKING IN THE MOUNTAINS ON OUR DAYS OFF.

大山院昇上童子
Oyama in - Noboru
Upper Sushana

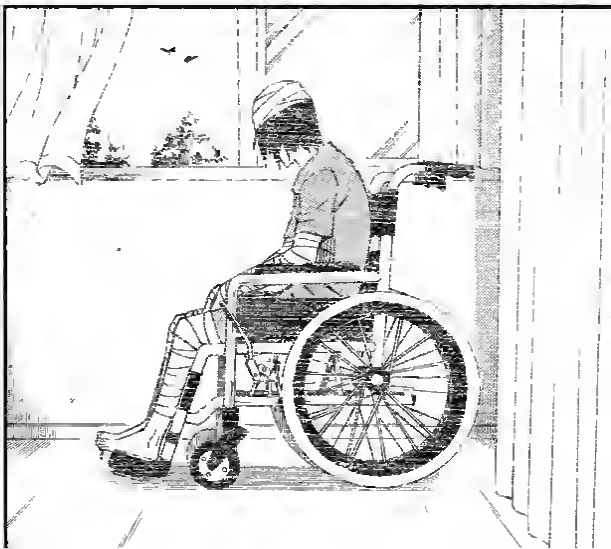

... I WAS GOING TO GIVE HIM...
...THOSE HIKING BOOTS AS A PRESENT THAT DAY...


NOBORU FINALLY CONQUERED HIS ILLNESS RECENTLY...
...AND STARTED WALKING ON HIS OWN, TOWARDS A BRIGHT AND PROMISING FUTURE.

GGHH... UUGH...

THAT BAS-TARD...
...THAT BASTARD GODA SAID WHEN THEY SENTENCED HIM...
TSK... THIS IS BULL.
DON'T YOU REALIZE YOU'RE ALL NOTHING BUT A BUNCH OF...
...SCUTTLING LITTLE ROACHES ON THE SIDES OF THE GODDAMN ROAD?!
...THAT BAS-TARD...
...KILLED MY SON FOR NOTH-ING...!
SLAM
UU AA AA AA GH !!

!
SHFF



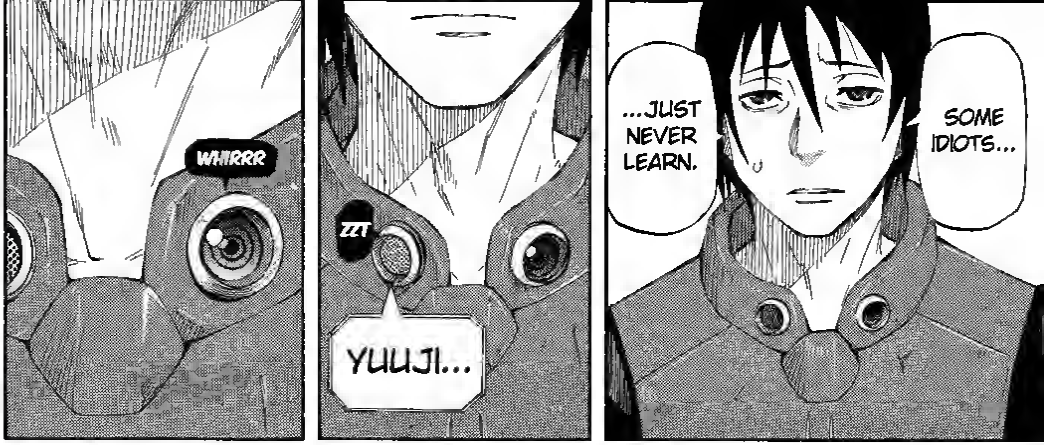
I WILL ASSIST YOU...
...IN HIS RETRIBU-TION!
Special Administrative Police Special Task Force
Assistor No.7
YUUJI YAMAGISHI (AGE 24)

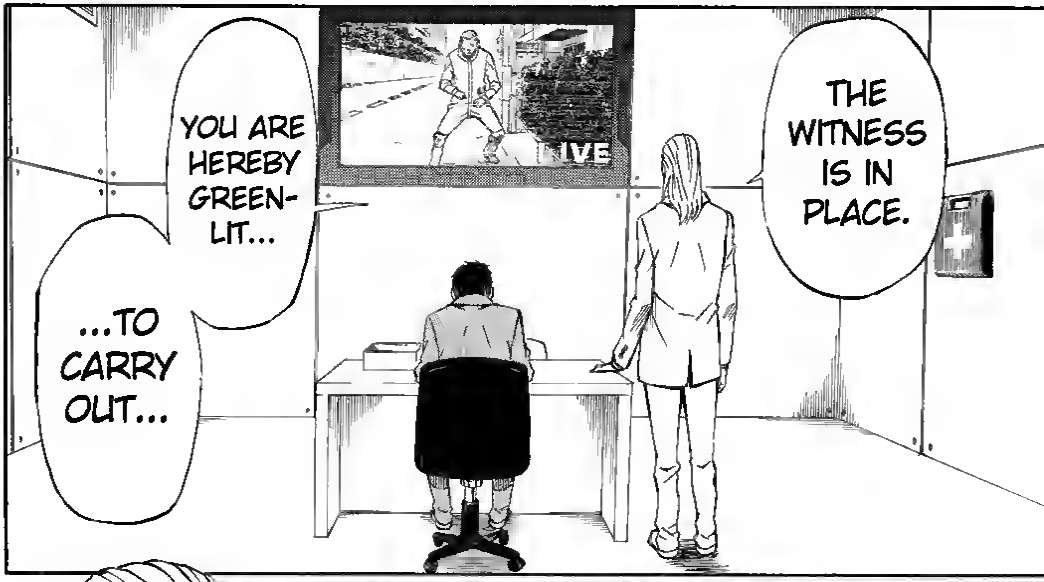
THIS IS THE ARENA OF EXECUTION!
TAKE OFF YOUR BLINDFOLD AND CHAINS.
RETALIATION INMATE GOH GODA.
FEH.
CLINK
.....

IT IS A 23 SQUARE KILOMETER CITY LEFT ABANDONED BY THE DEPOPULATION CRISIS.
IT IS A COMPLETELY ENCLOSED SPACE, MADE POSSIBLE BY WALLS CONSTRUCTED BETWEEN HIGH-RISE PILLARS.

IN OTHER WORDS..
!
CRICK
TSK!
AN ASSIS-TOR!
AND THEIR TACKY-ASS RED POWER RANGER COSPLAY!
THERE'S NOWHERE FOR YOU TO RUN.
CRICK
CRACK
THIS BODY ARMOR'S PAINTED RED...
...SO THE INMATE'S BLOOD SPLATTER DOESN'T STAND OUT.
ALSO...
...IT'S TO CARVE THE COLOR OF HUMAN LIFE INTO YOUR FINAL MOMENTS.
CRICK

THE INSTRUMENTS TO CARRY OUT YOUR RETRIBUTION...
...ARE PREPARED THROUGHOUT THIS FIELD.
YOU ARE PERMITTED TO USE THEM AS WELL.
.....
THIS MAKES YOUR RETRIBUTION THE SAME AS A DUEL.
SO IT'S NO CRIME IF YOU MANAGE TO OFF ME INSTEAD.
...HEH HEH...
THEN IT'S ON, MAN.
YOU'RE DEAD FRICKIN' MEAT!
GOT THAT ?!
K-CHAK
IM GONNA FELL YOUR ASS FOR SURE!
ONCE I DO THAT IM GONNA ENJOY THAT THREE-YEAR AMNESTY AND A SOFT EXECU-TION!!


WHIRRR
ZZT
YUUJI...
...JUST NEVER LEARN.
SOME IDIOTS...


LIVE
YOU ARE HEREBY GREEN-LIT...
...TO CARRY OUT...
THE WITNESS IS IN PLACE.

PLEASE MAKE IT HAPPEN!
...GOH GODA'S EXECUTION.
K-CHAK
I WILL HAVE NOBORU'S REVENGE...

ON BEHALF OF NOBORU-KUN AND THE KOYAMA FAMILY...
...AND FOR ALL THEIR HEARTS...
...I WILL GLADLY ASSIST.
DASH
WE'RE NOT IN SOME CRUSTY OLD SAMURAI TALE, YOU ASS!!
I FOUND SOME-THING GOOD RIGHT OFF THE BAT!
THIS'LL KILL YOU GOOD!!
CRUNCH

DRIP
RAA AH!!!
GWA H!!
STAB
YOU HAVE TO RETALIATE AGAINST ME WITH A CAR, AM I RIGHT?
HEH...!
.....

HUUGH!!
TWIST TWIST
WHAT'S UP, HUH?!
THIS CRAP'S GOTTA HURT!
I'LL KILL YOU BEFORE YOU EVEN SET FOOT IN ONE!!
THEN IT'S SIMPLE!
YEAH, UH... YOU PICKED THIS SCREW-DRIVER OFF THE GROUND...
...SO THIS THING'S GOTTA BE FULL OF GERMS.
That's filthy
!!
WHY'RE YOU ACTING ALL TOUGH?!
JUST DIE!!
CLANG!
!!?
TOO BAD. THIS HAND'S ACTUALLY ON LOAN TO ME.
THIS ASS-HOLE FEELS NO PAIN ...?!

THWOMP
HE'S... GONE!
!!
... WAD?
...YOU... DICK...
UGH!
RUNNING AWAY AFTER ALL?!
WHAT THE HELL'S THIS?
BLOOD?

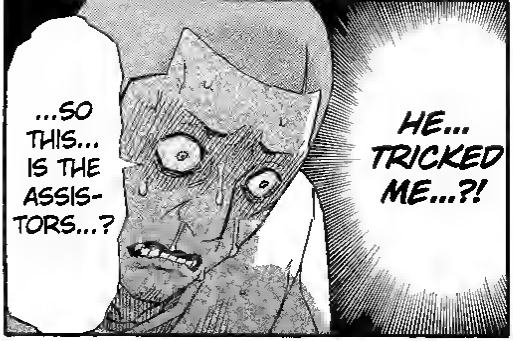
DRAG DRAG
ASSISTOR, MY ASS!
Ha ha ha!
TOO BAD YOUR LITTLE BLUFF AIN'T WORKING OUT, EH?!
BWAH HA HA HA HA! IT REALLY IS JUST A STUPID ACT!
YOUR BLOOD'S GONNA LEAD ME STRAIGHT TO YOU!
RUN ALL YOU WANT, PUNK!
!!
THAT AMNESTY DEAL'S IN THE FRICKIN' BAG!
HYEH HAH HAH!
D-DASH!

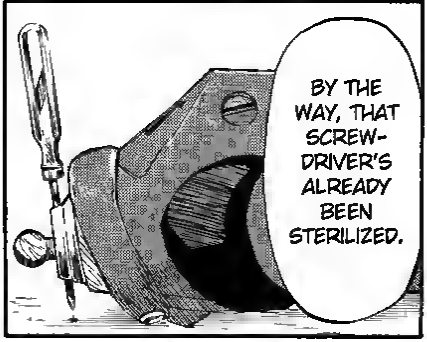
HE FOUND A CAR ?!
STAB
DASH
OH, NO YOU DON'T!
I FELLED HIS ASS!!
I WON!
I WON !!
FLUMP
I WON ...!
I...

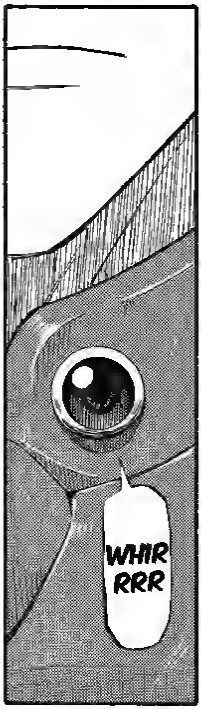
YOUR FELLED ASS CAN ASSIST THIS! HYAH HAH HAH HAH HAH!
HYAH HAH! ASSIST IN MY RETRIBU-TION... WHAT A JOKE!
!
UNLIKE THAT LITTLE COCK-ROACH I RAN OVER, I'M GONNA TAKE THE EASY WAY OFF THIS PLANET!
TIME TO SAY HELLO TO THAT SWEET THREE-YEAR AMNESTY AND HUMANE EXECUTION, BABY!
HEY, MAYBE I'M ABOUT TO BECOME A LEGEND HERE, 'CUZ I ACTUALLY FELLED SOMEONE!
IT'S... A DUMMY?!
HUH?
TUMBLE
HYAH HAH HAH HAH HAH HAH!

!!
FLASH
VROOM
MUH... MY CAR!!
WHAT THE HELL?!
!!
STRUGGLE
I CAN'T MOVE ...!
SPURCH
YOU TRICKED ME, YOU LITTLE...!
STUMBLE
SPATCH!

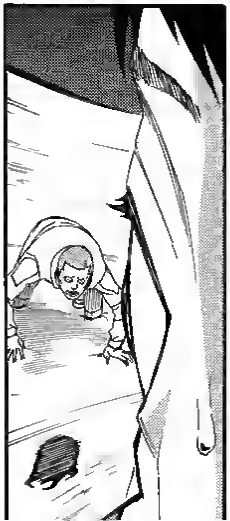
IT'S BIRDLIME.
SO HOW DOES IT FEEL...
...TO BE THE COCKROACH NOW?
WHAT THE HELL ?!
EVER HEAR OF "PROBABLY DRIVING"?
PEOPLE THINK THEY'RE "PROBABLY" ALL RIGHT WHEN THEY DRIVE RECKLESS-LY...
...AND THEY GET COCKY AND CAUSE ACCIDENTS LIKE YOU DID.
THIS SITUATION YOU'RE IN FITS THAT KIND OF THINKING.
RGH ...!
TOO BAD FOR YOU, BUT I'M A MOUSEY, WORRY-WART KIND OF GUY.
THE KIND OF GUY WHO THINKS ABOUT THINGS THAT "MIGHT" HAPPEN BEHIND THE WHEEL.
...NOT LIKE YOU'D KNOW, SINCE YOU DON'T HAVE A LICENSE.
YOU'RE TELLING ME HE USED HIS OWN BLOOD...
...TO LURE ME INTO THIS STUPID TRAP?!


...SO THIS... IS THE ASSIS-TORS...?
HE... TRICKED ME...?!


BY THE WAY, THAT SCREW-DRIVER'S ALREADY BEEN STERILIZED.


WHIR RRR

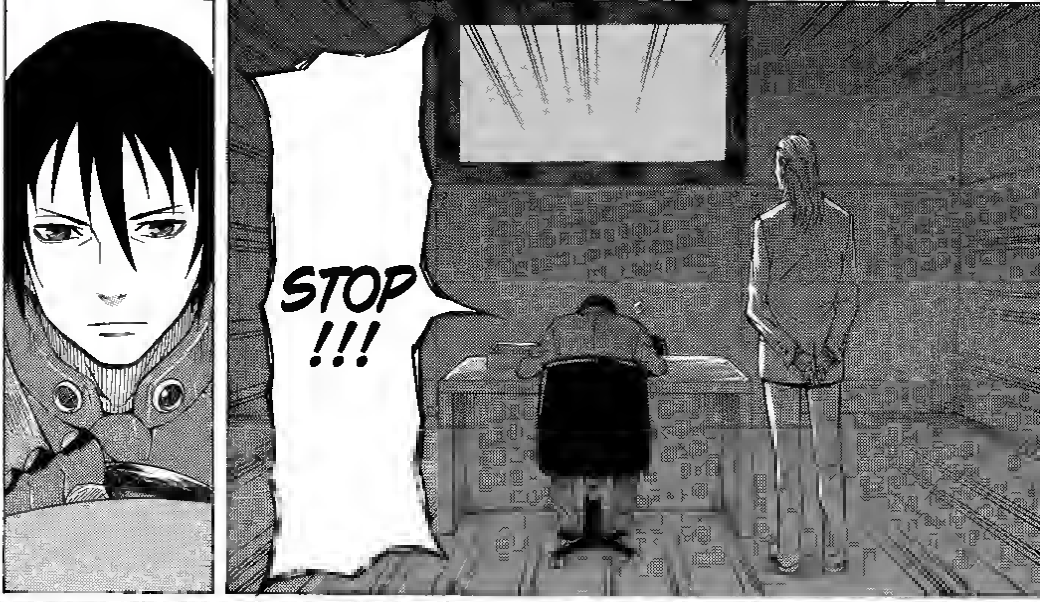
...YOUR EX-ECUTION.
I HEREBY COMMENCE...

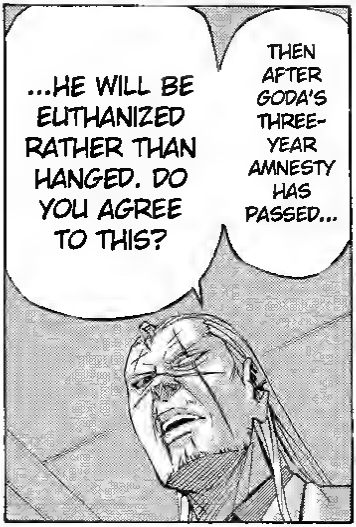


...I'M BEHIND THE WHEEL!
IT'S AS IF...
CLENCH

BY LAW, ALL RECORDING HAS STOPPED.
PLEASE WITNESS THE FOLLOWING EVENTS. DO NOT AVERT YOUR EYES.

HE--
HELP...
GGH...
I DON'T WANNA DIIIIIE !!!
I DON'T WANNA DIE!!!
CHUNK
TMM
HH
VRRM
NOT LIKE THIIIIS !!!
I DON'T WANNA DIE!

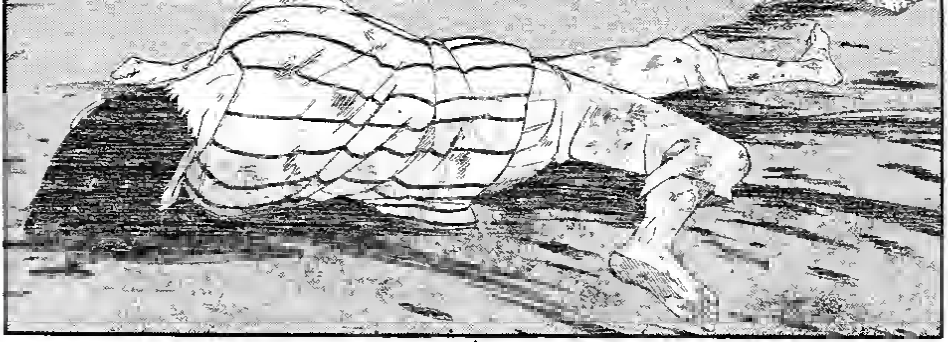

STOP
!!!

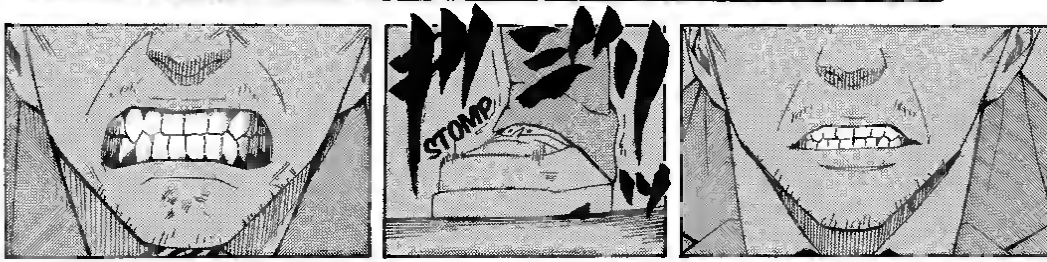

THEN AFTER GODA'S THREE-YEAR AMNESTY HAS PASSED...
...HE WILL BE EUTHANIZED RATHER THAN HANGED. DO YOU AGREE TO THIS?

I'M NOT LIKE YOU PEOPLE...

I... I CAN'T DO THIS...
I CAN'T TAKE ANOTHER'S LIFE...

...WHAT WE ASSISTORS CAN DO...
...FOR THE VICTIMS AND THEIR FAMILIES...
...IS TO EMPATHIZE WITH THEM ALONE.
YOUR SON... AFTER A LONG AND GRUELING BATTLE...
...IS NOT EVEN REFLECTED IN GODA'S DESPAIR-FILLED FACE.
...STOOD UP VICTORIOUS ON HIS OWN TWO FEET.
HIS LIFE WAS SQUASHED IN AN INSTANT, JUST LIKE A COCKROACH.
THE PAIN AND MORTIFICATION NOBORU-KUN SUFFERED...
...I WILL ASK YOU ONE LAST QUESTION.
YOU SAY YOU ARE DIFFERENT FROM US ASSISTORS.
BUT WHAT ARE YOUR FEET DOING RIGHT NOW?




STOMP

...SEEMS MY FOOT'S ALREADY PRESSED THE PEDAL...
...ALL THE WAY THROUGH THE FLOOR

THROB
UNDER-
STOOD.
PUMP
STOMP

I'B
SOW--
I'B
SOWRY--

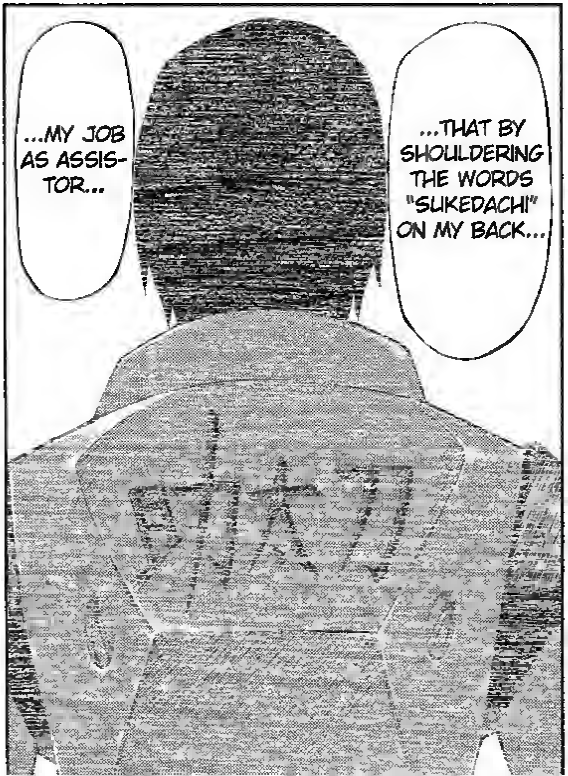
I'M
SORRY
!!!
I'M
SORRY
!!

STOP--
NO--

...IT MAY'VE BEEN SELF-SATISFACTION...
BECAUSE HE'S A CHILD WHO ALWAYS STRUGGLED WITH ILLNESS...
MAYBE... HE'S STILL LOST OUT THERE...
...AND BAD-MOUTHING ME ALL THE WHILE.
IT'S NOT LIKE RETALIATION WILL BRING NOBORU BACK...
...WHAT WAS RIGHT AND WRONG IN THIS SITUATION.
HONESTLY, I'M STILL NOT EVEN SURE...
...AND THUS UNDERSTOOD THE VALUE OF LIFE THE MOST.
THAT'S JUST WHO HE IS.

...NOW BEARS A HEAVY, HEAVY CROSS.
MY BACK, WHICH USED TO CARRY NOBORU...

...ON THE BACK OF A FATHER LIKE THAT NOW...
I DOUBT HE WOULD WANT TO GO HIKING...


...MY JOB AS ASSIS-TOR...
...THAT BY SHOULDERING THE WORDS "SUKEDACHI" ON MY BACK...

I BE-LIEVE...

...TO HELP BRING THE HEARTS OF OTHERS BACK TO LIFE.
...BECOMES A BOND...
I'LL REACH THE SUMMIT OF THE HIGHEST MOUNTAIN OUT THERE.
I WILL.
...WILL YOU GO CLIMBING AGAIN?
I'M SURE OF IT.
THEN NOBORU-KUN WILL REACH HEAVEN WITHOUT FAIL.

SUKEDACHI TOPICS file; 1 — DEATH BY RETALIATION ACT

[1] THE DEATH ROW INMATE SHALL, DURING THE DUEL, BE EXECUTED IN THE SAME MANNER IN WHICH THEIR VICTIM WAS KILLED.

[2] AFTER STRICT REVIEW, THE VICTIM'S FAMILY'S REQUEST FOR EXECUTION WILL BE CARRIED OUT BY AN ENFORCER OF THE SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE POLICE.

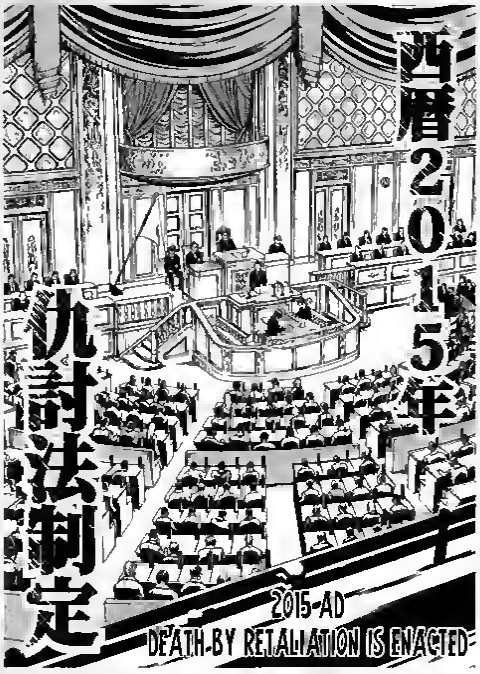
[3] IF THE INMATE FELLS THE ENFORCER DURING THE DUEL, THEIR EXECUTION BY RETALIATION EXPIRES, AND THEY ARE GIVEN 3 YEARS' AMNESTY AND THE RIGHT TO BE EUTHANIZED.

[COMMENTARY]

1 DEATH BY RETALIATION, AS EXPLAINED IN THE DEATH BY RETALIATION ACT, IS THE ULTIMATE MEASURE TAKEN TO COMBAT THE GROWING OCCURRENCE OF VIOLENT CRIME, AS SUCH CRIME WAS EXACERBATING THE DEPOPULATION CRISIS BROUGHT BY JAPAN'S AGING POPULATION AND DECLINING BIRTH RATES. IT IS, IN OTHER WORDS, A REVIVAL OF THE "RETALIATION SYSTEM" THAT EXISTED UP UNTIL THE BEGINNING OF THE MEIJI ERA. SINCE THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE ACT IN 2015, THEIR CRIMES RATES FELL QUICKLY AND DRAMATICALLY, PERHAPS DUE TO CRIMINALS' FEAR OF BEING EXECUTED IN THE EXACT MANNER IN WHICH THEY COMMITTED MURDER.

2 AS DEATH BY RETALIATION IS CAPITAL PUNISHMENT OF THE HIGHEST CLASS IN THE LAND – SURPASSING EVEN HANGING – IT IS NOT EASILY HANDED DOWN, REQUIRING A MYRIAD OF REVIEWS FIRST. THE FOREMOST DETERMINING FACTOR IS WHETHER THE VICTIMS' FAMILIES DESIRE TO GO ALL THE WAY TO FULL RETALIATION IN ORDER TO EXORCISE THEIR FEELINGS OF MORTIFICATION. HOWEVER, AS THE EXECUTION IS CARRIED OUT MANO-A-MANO WITH THE INMATE, PROXY AGENTS WERE NEEDED FOR THIS DANGEROUS TASK. THIS IS WHERE THE ASSISTORS – OFFICIAL SPECIAL AGENTS OF THE GOVERNMENT – COME INTO PLAY.

3 AS THE EXECUTION IS A DUEL, SHOULD AN ASSISTOR BE KILLED BY THE INMATE, THEN THE RETALIATION IS CONSIDERED A FAILURE, AS THE ASSISTOR HAS BEEN "FELLED" IN THE DUEL. DEATH BY RETALIATION IS AN "EYE FOR AN EYE" BRAND OF PUNISHMENT FOR THE CRIMINAL ELEMENT, BUT IT IS A DOUBLE-EDGED SWORD, FOR INMATES ARE GRANTED A CHANCE TO RESIST THEIR EXECUTION AS WELL. SHOULD AN INMATE SUCCEED IN FELLING AN ASSISTOR, THEY ARE GIVEN THREE YEARS' AMNESTY AND THE RIGHT TO BE EUTHANIZED. HOWEVER, IN REALITY, SUCH AN EVENT HAS ONLY OCCURRED ONCE...



English Digital Edition
Chapter 001

Sukedachi 09
助太刀09
Seishi Kishimoto

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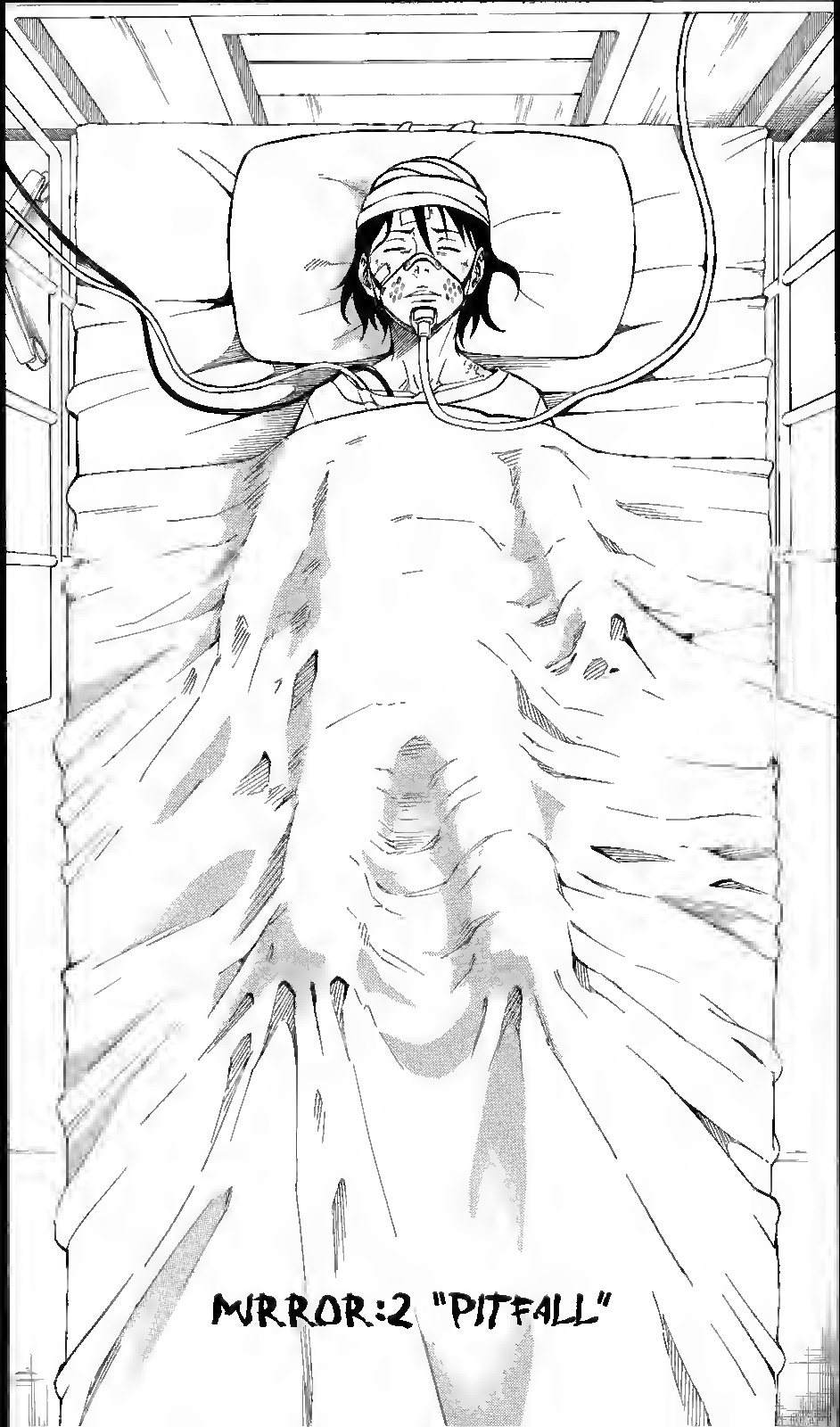
SUKEDACHI NINE
助太刀09


MIRROR:2 "PITFALL"

UAAA

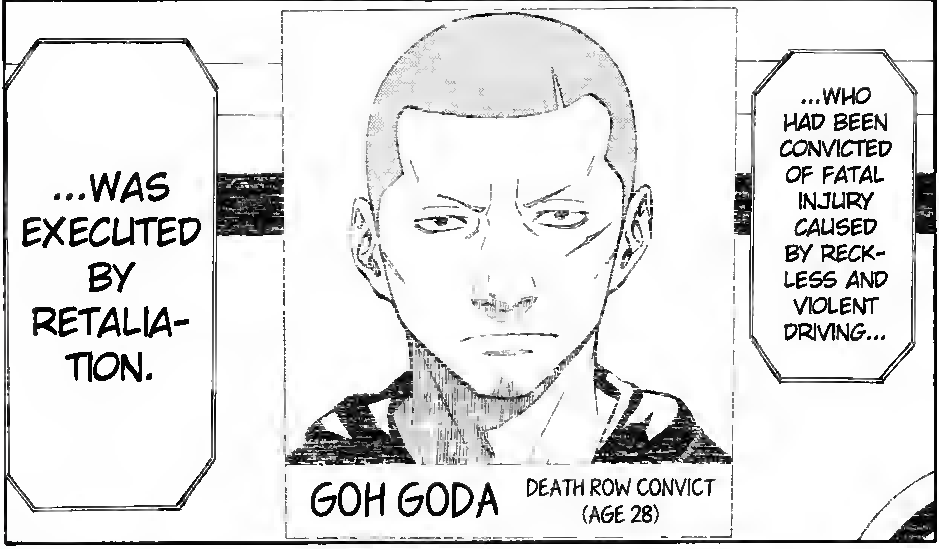
HUFF
HUFF
DAM-MIT...
BR RR RR RT
AAH ---!
AH...
BRRRRRRT

VRRRM...
PUTT
PUTT
59

VRROOOOSH
OUTTA THE WAY, SLOW-POKE!
WAUGH ?!
SCREEEEK

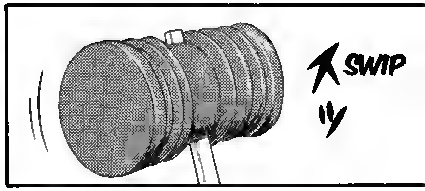
DON'T BRING THAT "NIGHT DRIVING" CRAP INTO A RACING GAME, YOU DIMWIT!
VROOOOM
HOLY CRAP, HARU! WATCH IT!!
RACING
CRASH
AGH!

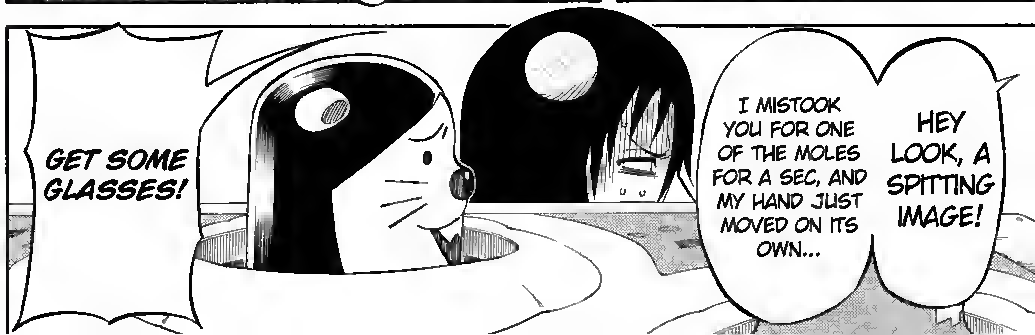
...IS WHEN YOU DRIFT GRACEFULLY THROUGH THAT ONE CORNER.
THE REAL CHARM IN THIS GAME...
NRRGH
LOOK WHO WIPED OUT, THOUGH.
THEN WHAT THE HELL DID YOU BRING ME HERE FOR...?
VRRR


...WAS EXECUTED BY RETALIA-TION.
GOH GODA
DEATH ROW CONVICT (AGE 28)
...WHO HAD BEEN CONVICTED OF FATAL INJURY CAUSED BY RECK-LESS AND VIOLENT DRIVING...

YOU SUCK!
IT'S WHACK-A-MOLE TIME!
BA-SWEEK
WHA?

HEY, HARU, WHAT'S THE MATTER?
EXECUTION... BY VIOLENT DRIVING...
SCREEEE
CRASH!

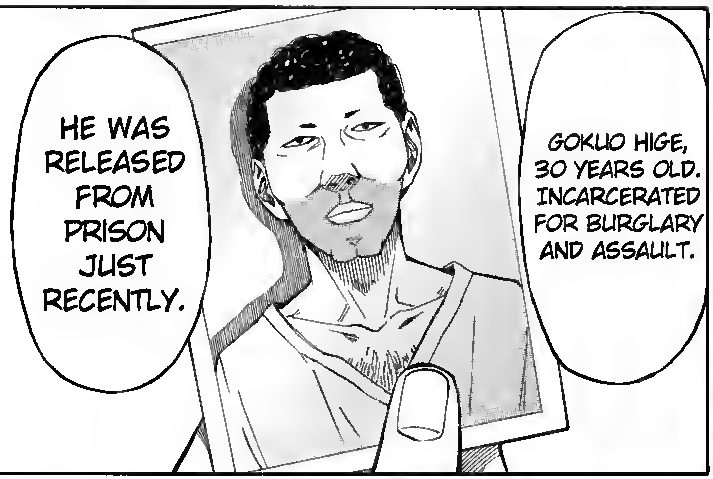

SWIP

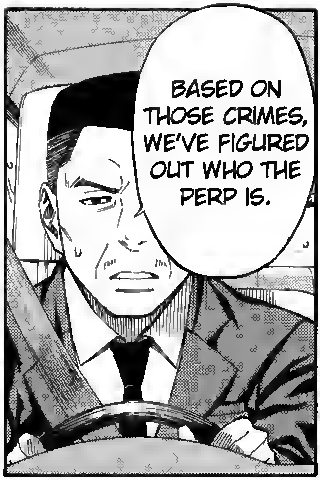

GET SOME GLASSES!
I MISTOOK YOU FOR ONE OF THE MOLES FOR A SEC, AND MY HAND JUST MOVED ON ITS OWN...
HEY LOOK, A SPITTING IMAGE!

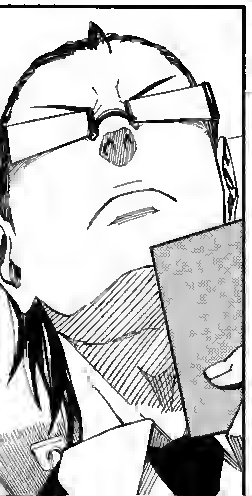
HEY LADY, DID YOU KNOW THAT MY SPECIALTY FROM BACK IN THE DAY WAS ALWAYS...
...WHACK-A-MOLE?
HNNGH
THANKS TO YOUR LITTLE OL' HUBBY...
...I WAS LOCKED UP IN A GLOOMY OL' CELL FOR FIVE WHOLE YEARS.
JUST LIKE A MOLE.
SO NOW IT'S YOUR TURN TO PLAY THE MOLE.
OH, TO PICTURE YOUR HUBBY'S FACE, SCREAMING AND CRYING IN DESPAIR...
IT GIVES ME GOOSE-BUMPS.
SCRAPE
SCRAPE
...OH YES, I HAVE A FEW OTHER SPECIALTIES TO ADD.
LIKE SHAVING...
SCRAAAAAPE
...AND DRESSING FISH.

AAAAAAAH!!!
UAAAA
あああああ
YURI-KOOOOO!!!
AAH!!!
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OKUMURA.
whisper whisper
WE MUST HURRY TO THE NEXT WAKE.

THREE MURDER VICTIMS, AND THEY'RE ALL RELATED TO COPS.
THEY SURE DON'T THINK TOO HIGHLY OF US.
Tokyo Metropolitan Police Assistant Superintendent
KENJI OKUMURA (AGE 45)


GOKUO HIGE, 30 YEARS OLD. INCARCERATED FOR BURGLARY AND ASSAULT.
HE WAS RELEASED FROM PRISON JUST RECENTLY.


BASED ON THOSE CRIMES, WE'VE FIGURED OUT WHO THE PERP IS.



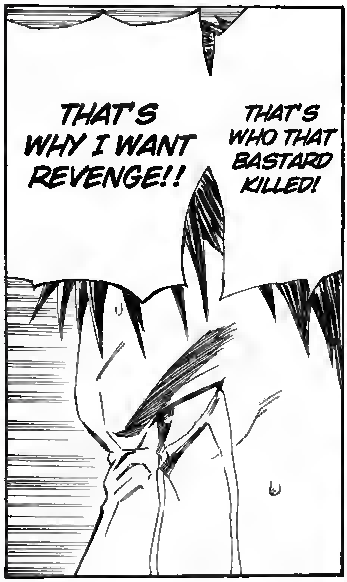
THE MOTIVE IS LIKELY REVENGE...
AND THE ARRESTING OFFICERS WERE THOSE THREE GRIEVING MEN AT EACH WAKE.

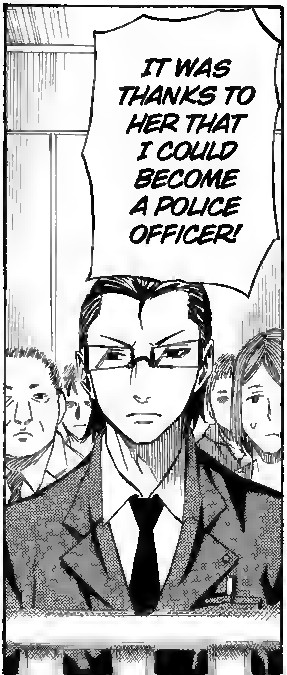
ALL THREE OF THOSE OFFICERS WILL LIKELY ASK FOR A RETALIATORY EXECUTION.
処刑
kusho
SO THIS TIME, WE'RE DEALING WITH A SERIAL MURDER. THREE VICTIMS...
...ONE PERP.
...WILL BE THE MOST APPROPRIATE FOR THE EXECUTION.
...THEN WE'LL NEED TO HOLD A CONFERENCE TO SEE WHICH OFFICER'S REQUEST...
GWIP
IF HIGE DOES GET THAT SENTENCE...
GWIP
...THE VICTIMS' FAMILIES WHO COULDN'T POCKET THE NINE-BALL...
...HAVE TO SUFFER AGAIN.
SSSSSH
COULD IT GET ANY WORSE?
TO SEE GOOD CO-WORKERS HAVE TO COMPETE OVER THAT...
BECAUSE IN A SERIAL MURDER...
IT'S LIKE A GAME OF NINE-BALL AT THE POOL TABLE-- YOU CAN POCKET ALL OTHER EIGHT BALLS IN ORDER AND STILL COME OUT THE LOSER.

PER THE VICTIMS' FAMILIES' REQUEST, HE WAS TO BE EXECUTED BY RETALIATION.
SHORTLY THEREAFTER, HIGE WAS FOUND GUILTY OF FIRST-DEGREE MURDER.
GOKUO HIGE. WE HEREBY SENTENCE YOU...
...TO DEATH BY RETALIATION!
THIS COURT IS NOW ADJOURNED.
WE'RE FAR BEYOND THAT POINT.
MALINGERING, HIGE?
...IN ADVANCE OF YOUR EXECUTION.
I HOPE YOU WILL REFLECT ON YOUR MISDEEDS..
...WISHES TO SPEAK, SIR?!
THE OTHER VOICE IN MY HEAD...
UM... YO--
YOUR HONOR, SIR...?

DAYS LATER, A CONFERENCE WAS HELD WITH THE VICTIMS' FAMILIES.
MY WIFE...
TO DETERMINE WHICH APPLICANT WILL MAKE THE MOST APPROPRIATE OBSERVER...
...EACH OF THEIR REQUESTS MUST BE HELD UNDER REVIEW.

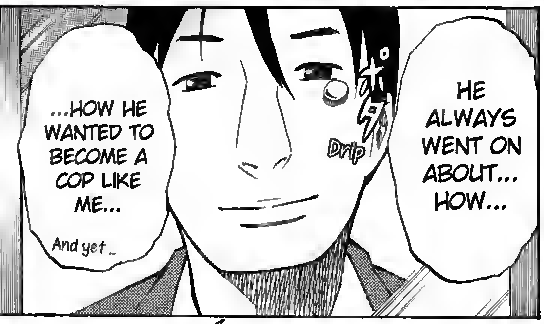
MY MOTHER WAS STABBED WITH A KNIFE EIGHTEEN TIMES...
EIGHTEEN TIMES!!

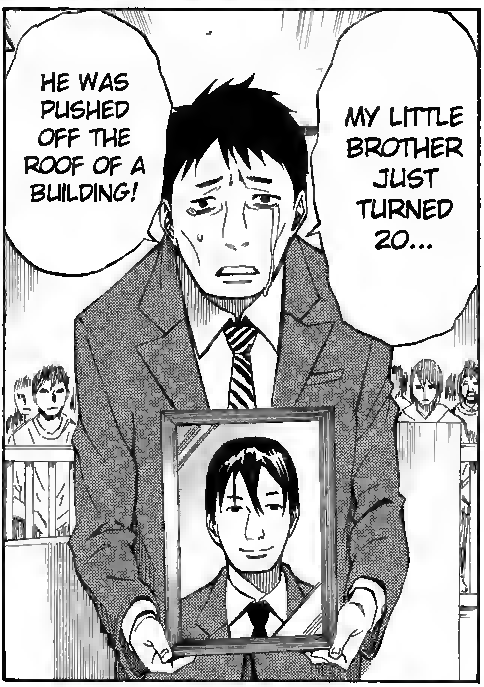

THAT'S WHO THAT BASTARD KILLED!
THAT'S WHY I WANT REVENGE!!

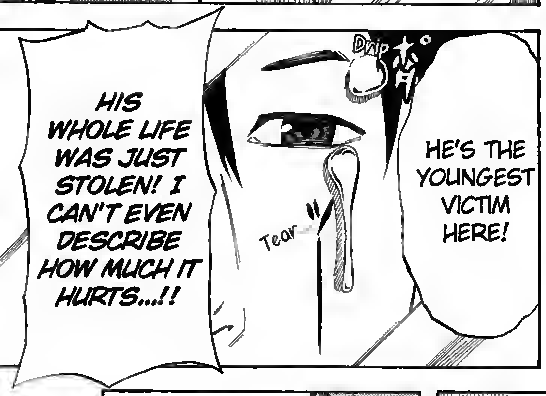

IT WAS THANKS TO HER THAT I COULD BECOME A POLICE OFFICER!

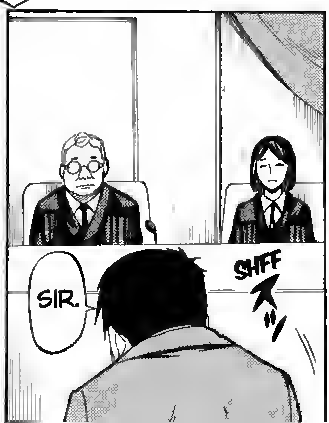
SHE RAISED ME INTO WHAT I AM TODAY ALL BY HERSELF!

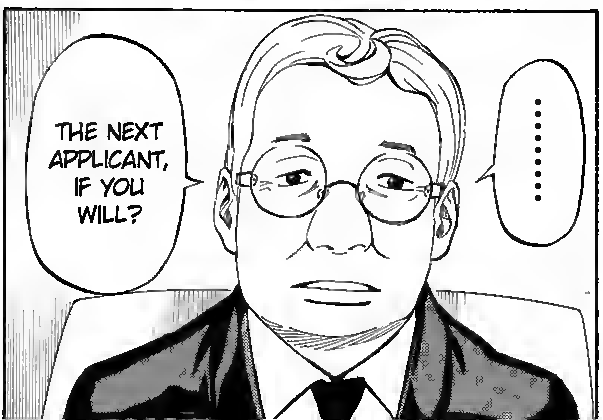
NEXT APPLICANT, PLEASE.
SNIFF...


...HOW HE WANTED TO BECOME A COP LIKE ME...
And yet...
Drip
HE ALWAYS WENT ON ABOUT... HOW...


HE WAS PUSHED OFF THE ROOF OF A BUILDING!
MY LITTLE BROTHER JUST TURNED 20...


HIS WHOLE LIFE WAS JUST STOLEN! I CAN'T EVEN DESCRIBE HOW MUCH IT HURTS...!!
Drip
Tear
HE'S THE YOUNGEST VICTIM HERE!

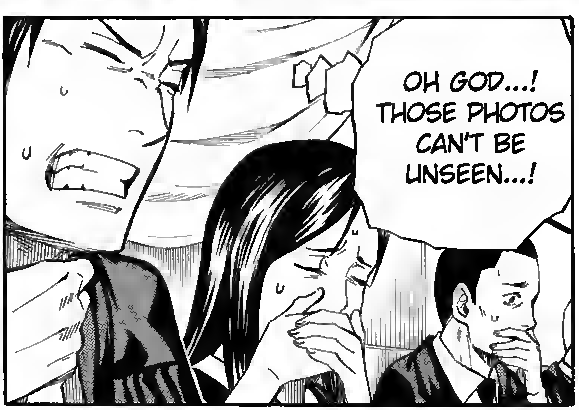

SIR.
SHIFF


THE NEXT APPLICANT, IF YOU WILL?
.....

MY... WIFE... WAS...
...STRUCK IN THE HEAD... WITH A HAMMER... AND...
...STABBED FIVE TIMES IN THE CHEST... TWICE IN THE ABDOMEN...
...AND...
...HER ARMS... AND... LEGS... WERE...
.... WERE...
...CH-CH...

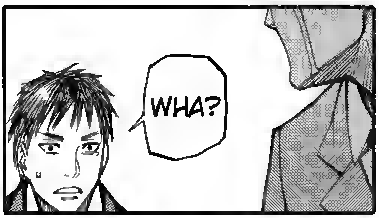
...S-S-SWITCHED...!
GGCK!
...CH-CHOPPED OFF AND... S...

KYOUYAMA-SENPAI! MY MOTHER WAS STABBED EIGHTEEN TIMES!!


OH GOD...! THOSE PHOTOS CAN'T BE UNSEEN...!

MY WIFE WAS PREGNANT !!
THAT BASTARD STOLE TWO LIVES FROM ME!

IT WASN'T JUST MY WIFE...


WHA?

DO THE POST-MORTEM REPORTS MATCH THE TESTIMONIES OF THESE GENTLEMEN?
DOCTOR MIWA.
THEY DO.
...WITH MY OWN TWO HANDS!
I WANT TO KILL THAT MAN...
...IS ACCURATE, YOUR HONOR.
EVERYTHING SAID HERE...
Special coroner
SHIROU MIWA
(age 68)
...WE WILL ANNOUNCE WHO WILL REPRESENT THE AVENGERS.
ONCE THE JURY HAS MADE THEIR DELIBERATION...

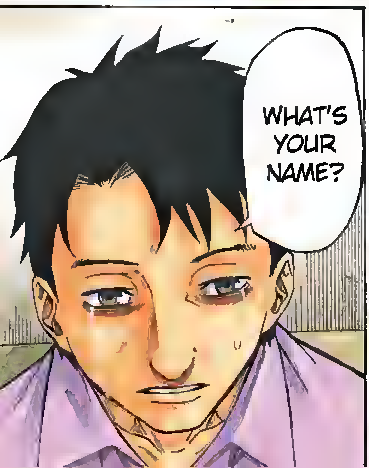
WE'VE COME TO OFFER OUR SINCERE CONDOLENCES CONCERNING YOUR WIFE AND CHILD.
BY LAW, WE ASSISTORS HAVE COME TO TAKE YOUR PLACE...
...IN DELIVERING RETRIBUTION...
...HIROSHI KYOUYAMA-SAMA.

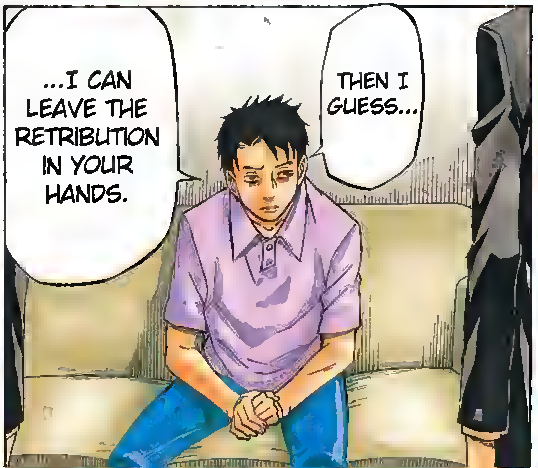
I HELD GREAT PRIDE IN BEING A POLICE OFFICER...
THEY SAY TO HATE THE SIN AND NOT THE SINNER...
EVERY-THING ON THE TABLE... CONCERNS THE CRIME.
...IF THIS IS WHAT BEING A COP MEANS... I...
ALL MY CO-WORKERS FELT THE SAME ABOUT THEIR JOBS, BUT...
NRGH!
CLENCH
...AND THEN I JUST... I...
BUT THEN I THINK ABOUT THE OTHERS WHO COULDN'T EXACT THEIR REVENGE...

GRAB
IF I MAY, SIR...
YOU SHOULD PUT YOUR OWN WIFE AND CHILD FIRST IN THIS SITUATION.
IT'S YOUR MEMORIES OF THEM...
...THAT WILL...
HOW COULD I NOT PUT THEM FIRST?!
DO YOU HAVE A WIFE AND CHILD ?!
I... DON'T, SIR...
RIGHT NOW, ALL I CAN THINK ABOUT IS MURDERING THAT BASTARD HIGE MYSELF!
BUT MY CO-WORKERS LOST A LOT, TOO...
THEY WERE MY PARTNERS AND RIVALS, AS BROTHERS OF THE LAW.
I SHOULDN'T EVEN HAVE TO COMPARE WHAT'S GOING ON RIGHT NOW...

...AND IT SEEMS I HAVEN'T TRAINED HIM ENOUGH. PLEASE FORGIVE ME.
Special Administrative Police
Special Task Force
Assistor No.2
KAZUNARI SAKURADA (age 44)
I'M SORRY, SIR. THIS IS HIS SECOND YEAR ON THE JOB...
...IT'S THOSE TRAITS THAT ALLOW HIM TO CARRY OUT RETRIBUTION FOR THE VICTIMS.
STILL, THOUGH...
...HE'S STILL YOUNG, SO HE DOES GET AHEAD OF HIMSELF DURING A RETALIATION.
HE'S CONSTANTLY SPACED OUT, AND...
WE BOTH HAVE SOME PRETTY STRONG EMOTIONS RUNNING.
SEEMS LIKE WE'RE PRETTY SIMILAR.
SORRY, KID.
SAKURADA-SAN...

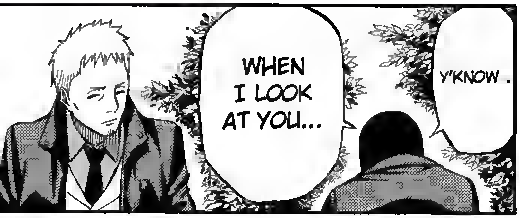
SIR, IT'S THOSE STRONG EMOTIONS...
...THAT ALLOW US TO RISK OUR LIVES AS ASSISTORS.

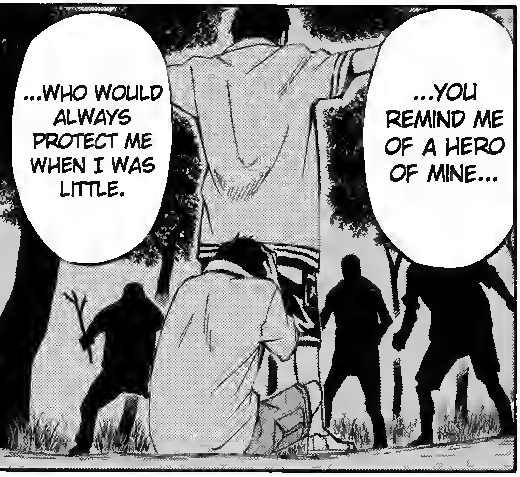

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?


...I CAN LEAVE THE RETRIBUTION IN YOUR HANDS.
THEN I GUESS...

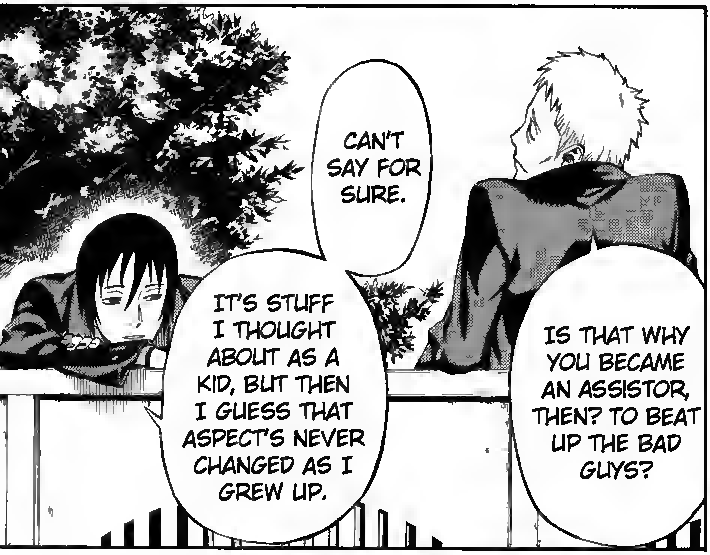
...THANKS, KID.

...YUUJI YAMAGISHI.
SPECIAL TASK FORCE, ASSISTOR NO.7...

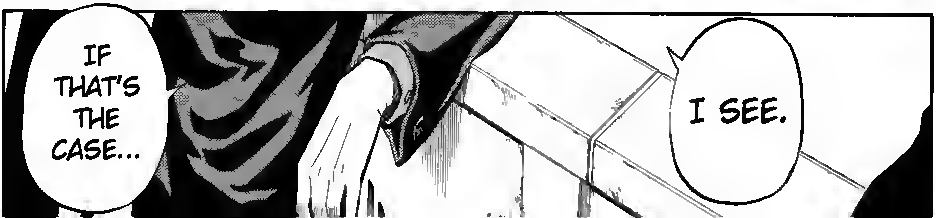

WHEN I LOOK AT YOU...
Y'KNOW .

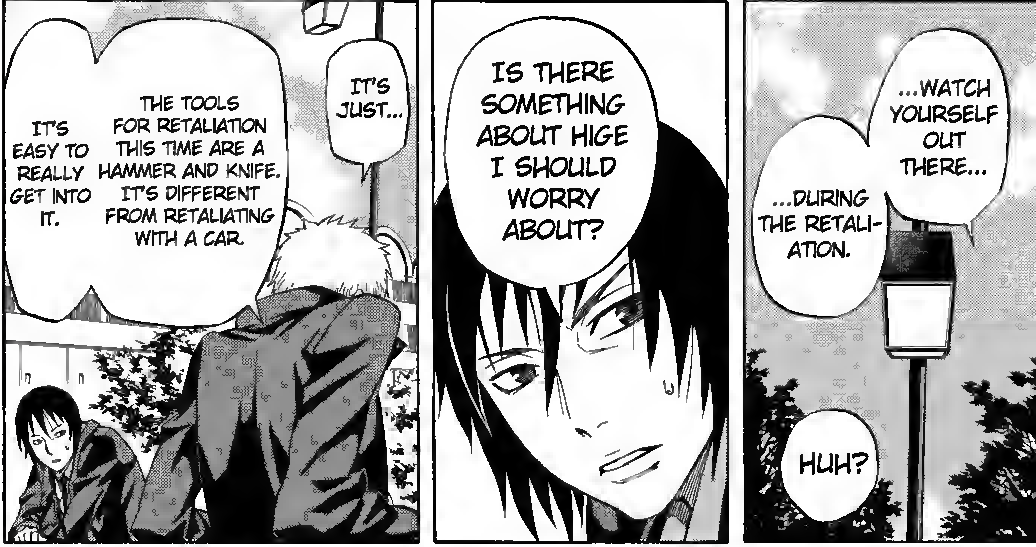

...WHO WOULD ALWAYS PROTECT ME WHEN I WAS LITTLE.
...YOU REMIND ME OF A HERO OF MINE...

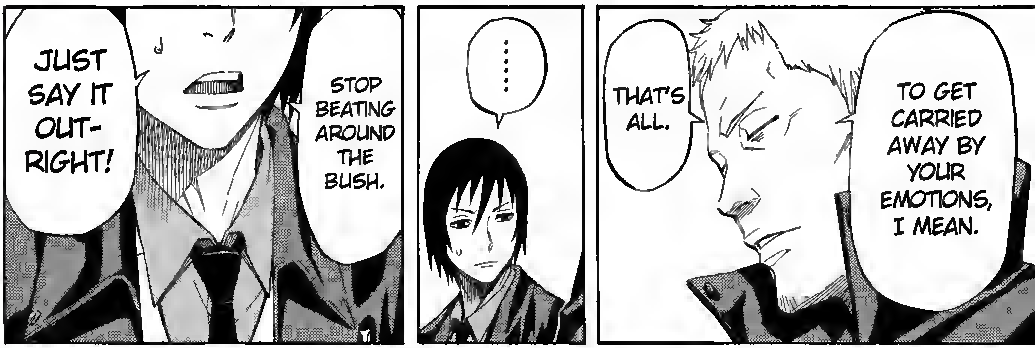
THANKS FOR THE SAVE BACK THERE, SAKURADA-SAN.
DON'T SWEAT IT.
ANYTHING FOR MY JUNIOR CO-WORKER.

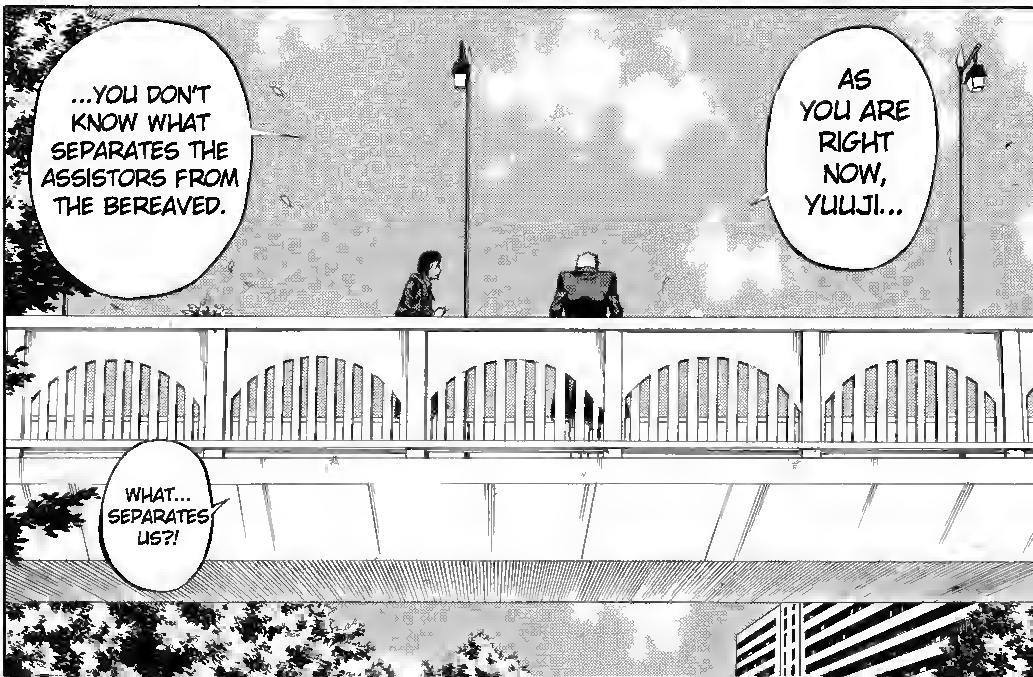

CAN'T SAY FOR SURE.
IT'S STUFF I THOUGHT ABOUT AS A KID, BUT THEN I GUESS THAT ASPECT'S NEVER CHANGED AS I GREW UP.
IS THAT WHY YOU BECAME AN ASSISTOR, THEN? TO BEAT UP THE BAD GUYS?

HERO, EH?
I'VE ALWAYS TOLD MYSELF, "I WANNA BECOME A GUY LIKE THAT."
I'VE ALWAYS ADMIRED HIM.

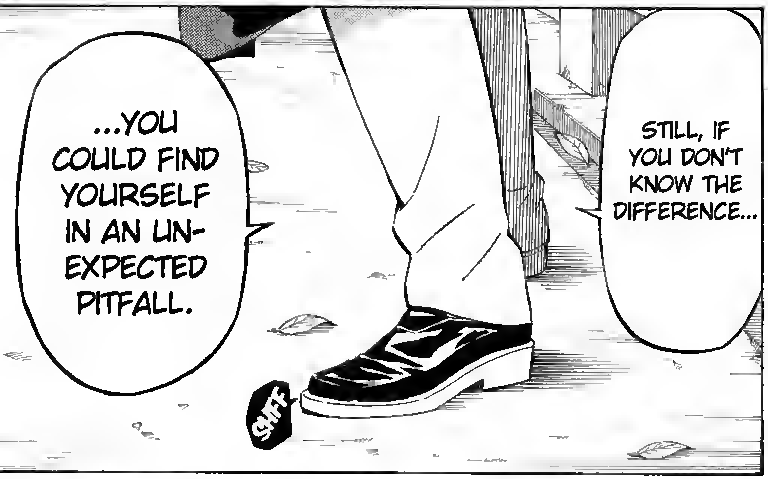

IF THAT'S THE CASE...
I SEE.

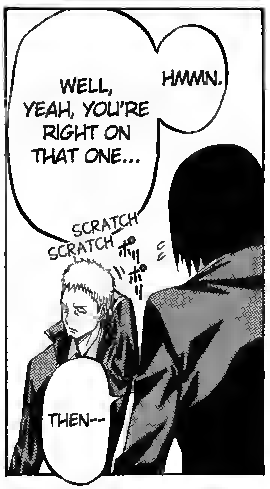

IT'S JUST...
THE TOOLS FOR RETALIATION THIS TIME ARE A HAMMER AND KNIFE. IT'S DIFFERENT FROM RETALIATING WITH A CAR.
IT'S EASY TO REALLY GET INTO IT.
IS THERE SOMETHING ABOUT HIGE I SHOULD WORRY ABOUT?
...WATCH YOURSELF OUT THERE...
...DURING THE RETALI-ATION.
HUH?


JUST SAY IT OUT-RIGHT!
STOP BEATING AROUND THE BUSH.
.....
THAT'S ALL.
TO GET CARRIED AWAY BY YOUR EMOTIONS, I MEAN.


...YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT SEPARATES THE ASSISTORS FROM THE BEREAVED.
AS YOU ARE RIGHT NOW, YUUJI...
WHAT... SEPARATES US?!

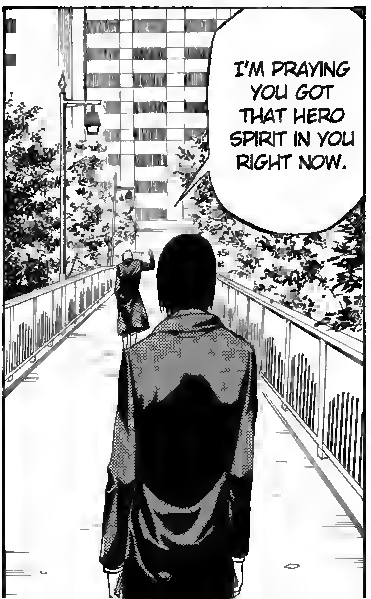
I THOUGHT EMPATHIZING WITH THE FAMILIES IS WHAT MAKES US ASSISTORS.
THAT BIT SHOULDN'T EVEN BE UP FOR COMPARISON!


STILL, IF YOU DON'T KNOW THE DIFFERENCE...
...YOU COULD FIND YOURSELF IN AN UN-EXPECTED PITFALL.
SHIFF

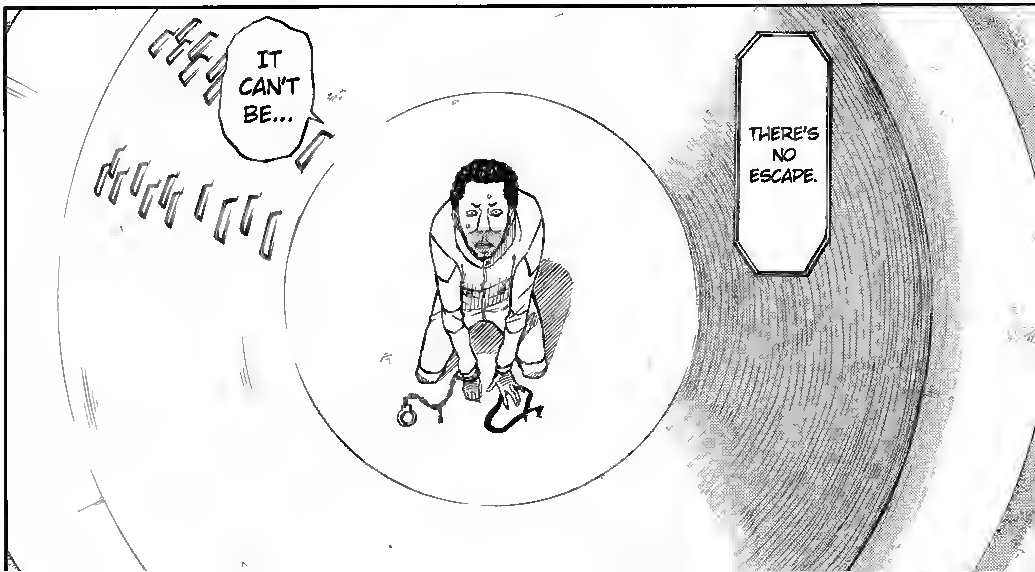

HMMN.
WELL, YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT ON THAT ONE...
SCRATCH SCRATCH
THEN--

WHAT DOES ALL THAT MEAN?!

THE DIFFERENCE? PITFALL...?
.....


I'M PRAYING YOU GOT THAT HERO SPIRIT IN YOU RIGHT NOW.

2-33-2
THIS IS THE ARENA OF EXECUTION.
IT'S A 23 SQUARE KILOMETER CITY LEFT ABANDONED BY THE DEPOPULATION CRISIS.
IT'S SEALED OFF VIA THE WALLS BUILT BETWEEN THE HIGHEST BUILDINGS AND OVERHEAD STRUCTURES.
!


IT CAN'T BE...
THERE'S NO ESCAPE.

DAMM-IT!
SLIIIDE
I SAID THERE'S NO ESCAPE.
WITNESSES PUT THAT VISOR ON IN THIS OBSERVANCE ROOM...
...AND EXPERIENCE THE RETALIATION IN REAL TIME.
AND... HIGE WILL BE EXECUTED IN THE EXACT SAME MANNER IN WHICH HE KILLED YURIKO...
THIS IS...
...A 3D VISOR?
IT'S LIKE I'M HAVING MY REVENGE... WITH MY OWN TWO HANDS.
tremble
tremble
I'M SURE YOU'RE AWARE, BUT...
...THE RETALIATION IS LIKE A DUEL.
IF THE ASSISTOR IS FELLED DURING THE EXECUTION...
...HIGE WILL BE GIVEN THREE YEARS' AMNESTY AND A SOFT EXECUTION.

ARENA OF EXECUTION, EAST WARD
SNIFF... SNIFF... HOW'D IT COME TO THIS...

...GOKUO HIGE'S EXECUTION!
THE WITNESS IS IN PLACE.
YOU'RE GREEN-LIT TO CARRY OUT...
I'M HERE IN UNIFORM FOR THE SAKE OF MY COMRADES WHO COULD NOT OBSERVE THE EVENT FOR THEMSELVES!
IT'S NOT JUST FOR MY WIFE AND CHILD.

SAKURADA-SAN'S IN THE OBSERVANCE ROOM?!
!
BEEP
YUUJI.

SLIDE
MAKE OUR REVENGE HAPPEN.
YOU ARE ME!
AND I AM YOU!
RIGHT!
FOR THE HEARTS OF THE KYOUYAMA FAMILY, AND ALL THE VICTIMS IN THIS CASE...
...I WILL GLADLY ASSIST!
Sukedachi
助太刀
IS THIS... REALLY...
...H-HAPPEN-ING... TO ME?
NGGH
HIC
DON'T YOU GUYS REALIZE THAT YOU'RE DOING...
...EXACTLY THE SAME THING I DID?!
WAAAAAAUGH!

...AND NOT THE GODDAMN SINNER HIMSELF ?!
NOW THAT YOU'VE MADE ME A VICTIM, YOU THINK I CAN HATE THE SIN...
IT'S TOO DAMN LATE, HIGE!!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU CRYING FOR NOW?!
SKRUT
...AND DIE!
JUST KEEL OVER...
SHHNK
NOOOOO!
SAY YOUR PRAYERS...

STOMP
THUD
EH?!
EH?!
...AND LET GO OF THE DAMN KNIFE!
STOP PLAYIN' AROUND WITH ME, BOY...
GRIND GRIND
FAKE-CRYING IS ONE OF MY SPECIAL-TIES!
FOOL!
OH, THAT'S FILTHY! TURN OFF THE SPIGOT!
SPUT SPUT
GETTING TRICKED IS YOUR OWN DAMN FAULT.
WELL...
Dr oo oo of
NICE TRY PLAYING IT COOL, BUT...
YEEGH ...!
GRAB
THUK

I'LL FELL YOU AND BURY YOU RIGHT HERE IN THE SAND!!
THIS NEW PUNISHMENT SYSTEM IS BULL, YOU HEAR ME?!
...JUST LIKE HOW I DRESSED UP YOUR LITTLE OL' WIFEY!
I'LL DRESS HIM UP ALL NICE...
OOOOOH, IT MAKES MY LITTLE WHISKERS TINGLE!
I'LL DO THIS KID'S HEAD FIRST, THEN HIS LIMBS!
GO GET SALTY AGAIN, KYOU-YAMA!
THOKK
HIGE YOU BASTAA-AARD!

NO...
AH HAH HAH HAH HAH!
HGCK!
AH HAH HAH HAH HAH!
HAH HAH!
AH HAH HAH HAH! NEXT UP, THE LIMBS!
H-WHAA?!
YOU TOOK THE WORDS RIGHT OUT OF MY MOUTH...
...HIGE.

ZSSH
AH, CRAP !!
IT'S A TOY KNIFE ?!
SKWIP
IT'S...
SKWIP
SKWIP
WHAM
FLUMP
Gather
WHOA!

ZSSSSH
...RIGHT HERE IN THE SAND.
I HID THE ACTUAL HAMMER AND KNIFE FOR YOUR EXECUTION...
I... CAN'T... MOVE?!
MMN--
HA--
ER?
Dizzy
Dizzy
TRICKERY JUST HAPPENS TO BE MY SPECIALTY, Y'KNOW?
YOU PLANNED... TO GET TACKLED... FROM THE START...?
NO... WAY...
DIZZY
DIZZY
AND THAT'S WHY YOU COULDN'T TELL THE FAKE KNIFE FROM A REAL ONE...
...THE RETRACTABLE TOY BLADE WOULD STILL JUST DIG RIGHT IN.
EVEN IF I DROP THE TOY KNIFE ON THIS SOFT SAND...
THUK
...FOR EXECUTION.
DRESSING THE WICKED...
I'VE GOT ANOTHER SPECIALTY, BY THE WAY.
TUP
H-H-HOLD ON, SON... THIS WAS ALL JUST A JOKE...!

GYAAA AAH-- REAL KNIFE!!
STAB
OH MY GOD, WHAT THE HELL'S UP WITH THIS GUY?!
Twitch
HH GG GCK !!!
SLICE
HGCK... S-SOME-BODY... HE--
Shuff
SHAK
STAH HH--
HGCK ...
HHH...
YEEG YAAA AAH!!
YES, THAT'S IT!! THAT'S IIIT!! DO HIS ARMS AND LEGS NEXT!!
SHOP
.....

THE DESPAIR OF MY COMRADES AND THEIR FAMILIES...
MY WIFE'S PAIN AND SUFFER-ING...
THE NEW LIFE THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO COME...
DIEE EE!!
PAYING IT OFF WITH YOUR LIFE ALONE ISN'T NEARLY ENOUGH HIGE!
SHORGH
DIE!
DIE !!!
SCRAPE

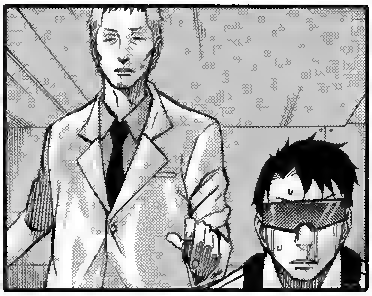
LIVE
HEAD, ARMS, LEGS, ABDOMEN, CHEST...
THIS IS EVERY-THING, SIR!
NO IT ISN'T !!
WE'RE NOT DONE YET!!
RETALIATORY EXECUTIONS MUST BE DONE...
...EXACTLY HOW THE PERP-ETRATOR MURDERED THEIR VICTIMS!!
GOING BEYOND THOSE BOUNDARIES VIOLATES THE LAW!
AT THIS RATE, THIS'LL BE NO DIFFERENT FROM WHAT HIGE HAS--
SHUT UP!
AREN'T ASSISTORS SUPPOSED TO EMPATHIZE WITH THE VICTIMS HERE?!

YUUJI
!

DO IT!
WE'RE FAR FROM DONE HERE!
SLAM

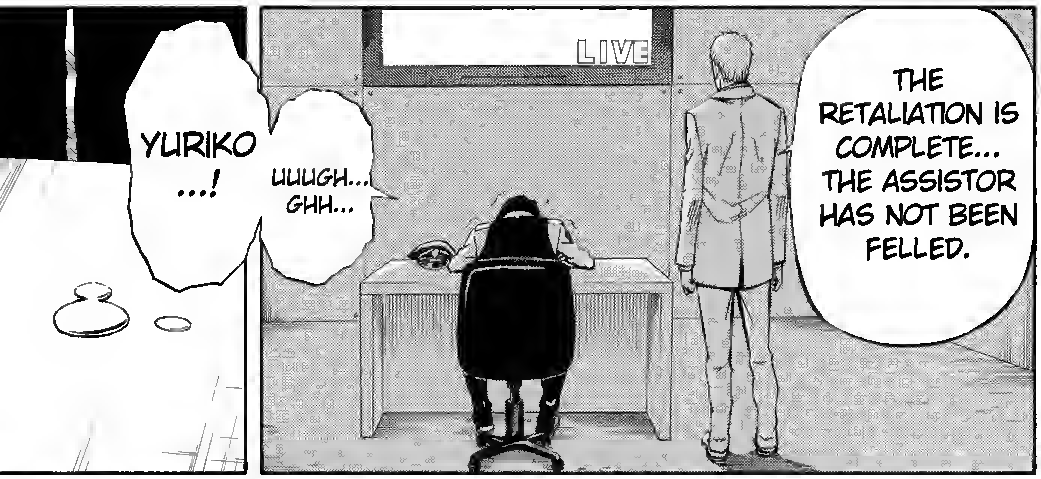
!!?

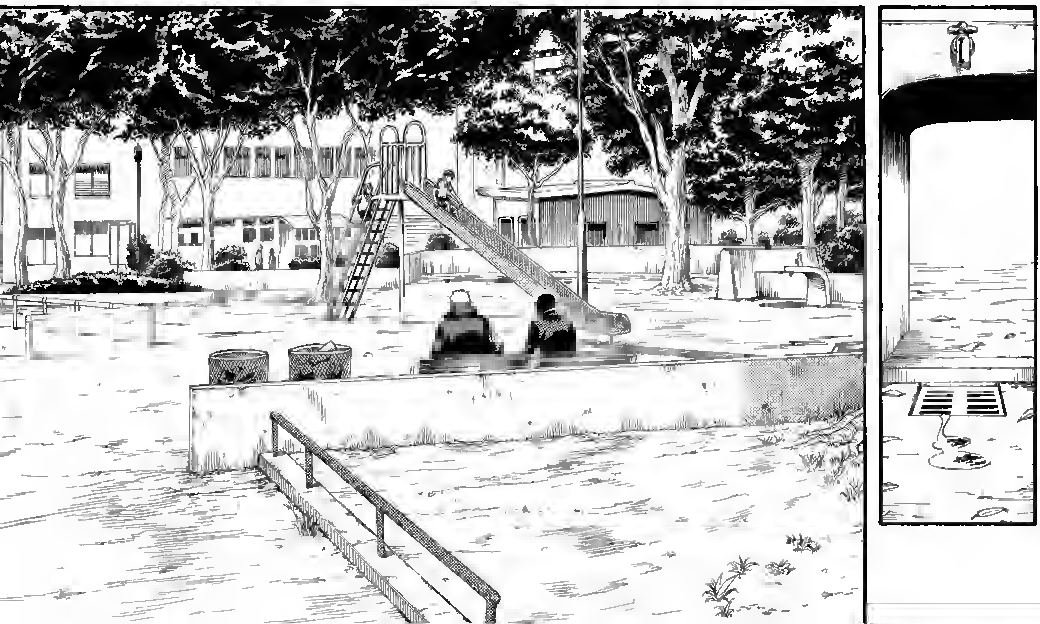
I'M PRAYING YOU GOT THAT HERO SPIRIT IN YOU RIGHT NOW.

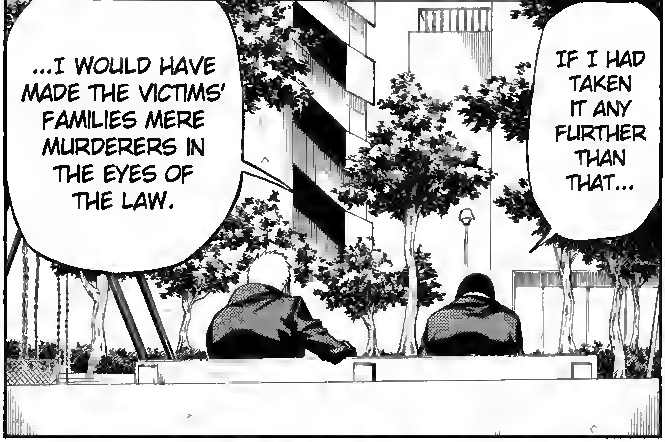


MY HAND...
...STOPPED ME...?

犬の進入禁止
NO DOGS ALLOWED


YURIKO ...!
UUUGH... GHH...
LIVE
THE RETALIATION IS COMPLETE... THE ASSISTOR HAS NOT BEEN FELLED.




...I WOULD HAVE MADE THE VICTIMS' FAMILIES MERE MURDERERS IN THE EYES OF THE LAW.
IF I HAD TAKEN IT ANY FURTHER THAN THAT...

... ISN'T EVERYTHING IN THIS LINE OF WORK.
I REALIZE NOW THAT JUST EMPATHIZING WITH THE FAMILIES...
I'VE GOT A WAYS TO GO...
...THAT YOU MANAGED TO AVOID THAT PITFALL.

THANK GOD, THEN...
slosh slosh
MILK

SAKURADA-SAN...
CONSIDER YOURSELF A FULL-FLEDGED ASSISTOR NOW.

...GOTTEN A LITTLE CLOSER TO BEING THE KIND OF HERO YOU MENTIONED?
...STILL, THOUGH, DON'T YOU THINK THAT YOU'VE...
Heh!
Gyeh
BIBI

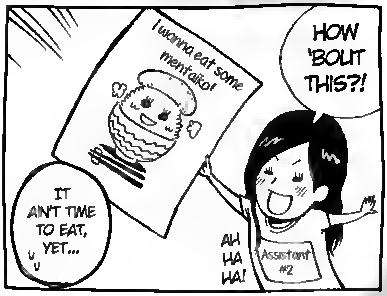
THANK YOU, SIR!
YOU DID GREAT TODAY, SO THIS ONE'S ON ME!
LET'S GRAB A BITE TO EAT, EH?
!
.....
TIE HIM UP!
YEAH, WE BAGGED ONE!
FLAIL
FLAIL
AH
YARGH!
?

MENTAIKO KYU

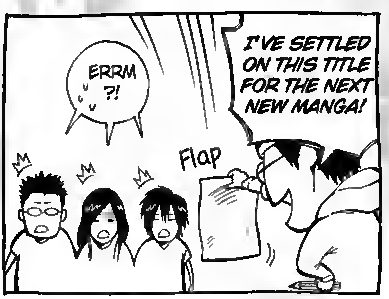
明太子09

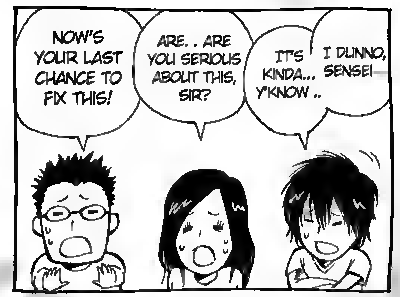
MENTAIKO NO KYU-CHAN ちゃん

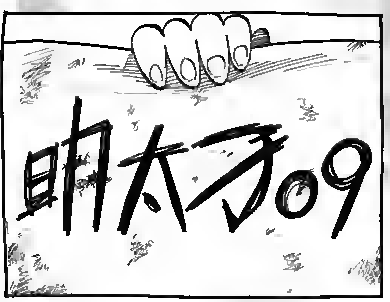
AND SO IT GOES...



FIRST DAY WITH THE ASSISTANTS







BONUS 4-KOMA MENTAIKO NO KYU-CHAN ①

DRAWN BY: KEITA AOKI

English Digital Edition
Chapter 002

Sukedachi 09
助太刀09
Seishi Kishimoto

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SUKEDACHI NINE
助太刀09

MIRROR:3
SIDE-A "RYOKO (1)"

tremble
tremble
tremble
Y'KNOW, I'VE ALWAYS, ALWAYS WATCHED OVER YOU FROM AFAR...
...AND I THOUGHT I FOUND A REAL PRINCESS THIS TIME, Y'KNOW?
HUFF
I THOUGHT YOU WERE PURE, Y'KNOW?
HUFF
GRAB

A FILTHY LITTLE PIG!
BUT NOW IT TURNS OUT YOU'RE JUST ANOTHER BITCH IN THE CROWD!

CLENCH
...SMEARING YOUR FILTH ALL OVER ME!!

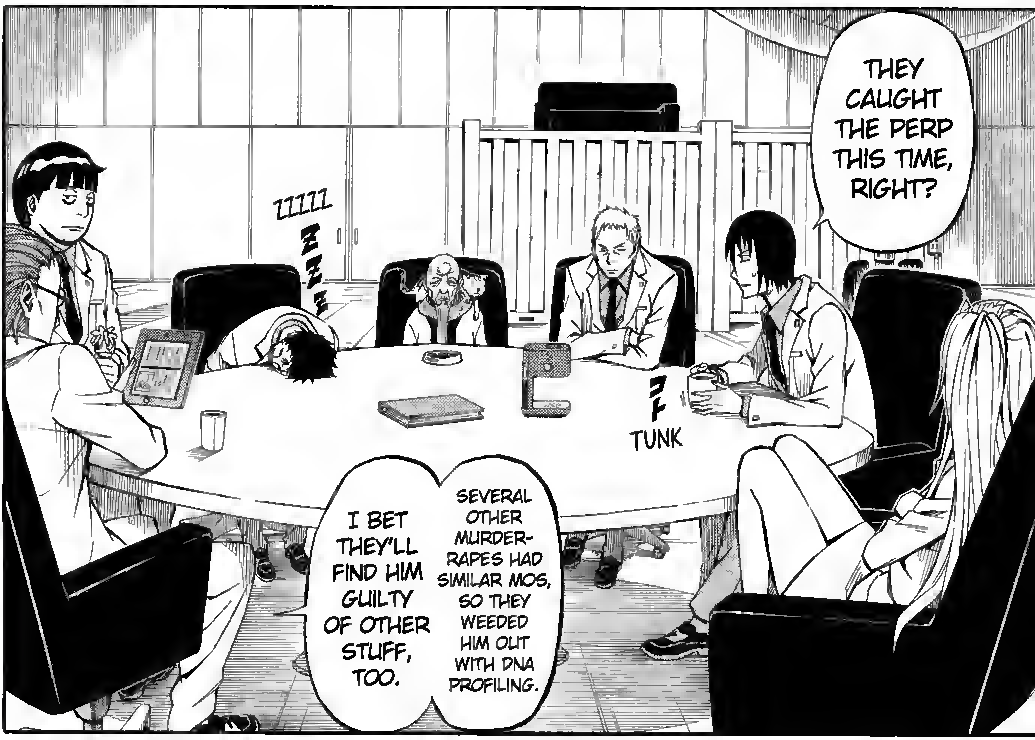
YOU'VE GOT SOME NERVE...

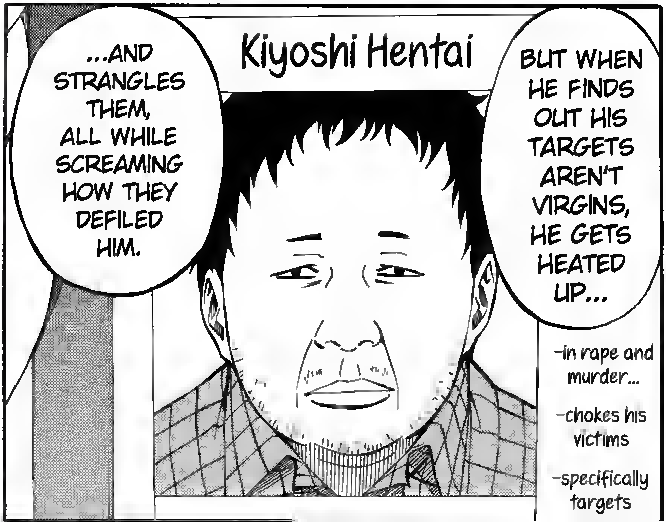
SERIOU-SLY?!
HOLY SHI--!
WHOA... WHOA!
HEY!!

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?!

!
GGCK

ANOTHER RAPE AND MURDER?
GLORP

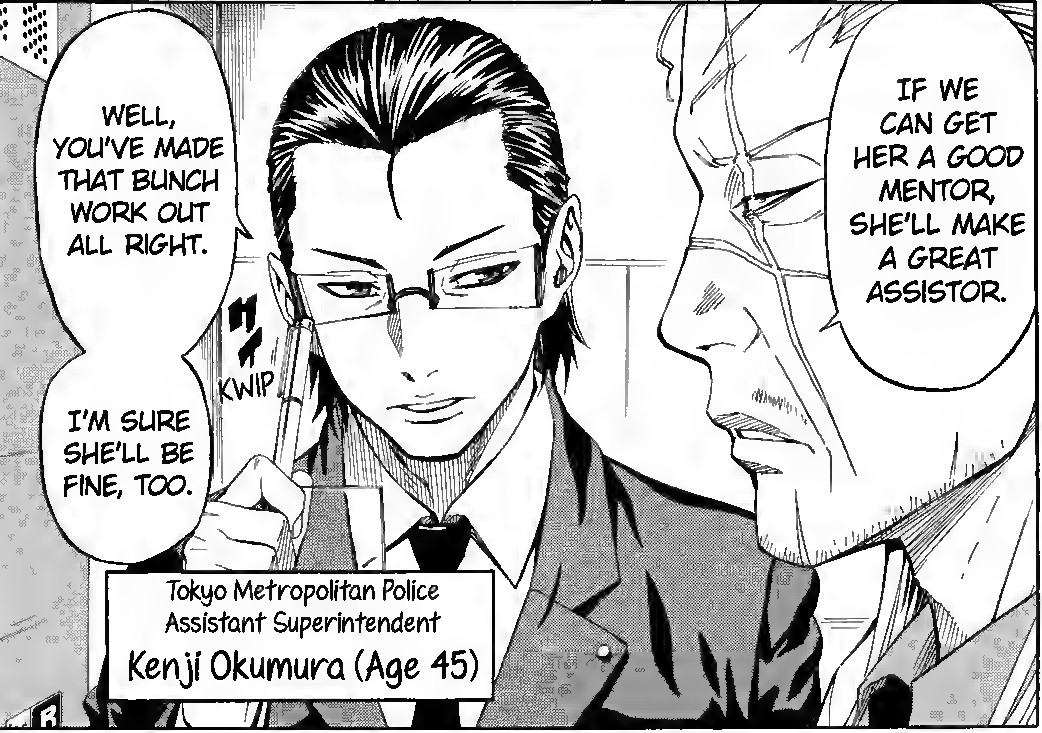

THEY CAUGHT THE PERP THIS TIME, RIGHT?
ZZZZZ
TUNK
I BET THEY'LL FIND HIM GUILTY OF OTHER STUFF, TOO.
SEVERAL OTHER MURDER-RAPES HAD SIMILAR MOS, SO THEY WEEDED HIM OUT WITH DNA PROFILING.


Kiyoshi Hentai
...AND STRANGLES THEM, ALL WHILE SCREAMING HOW THEY DEFILED HIM.
BUT WHEN HE FINDS OUT HIS TARGETS AREN'T VIRGINS, HE GETS HEATED UP...
-in rape and murder...
-chokes his victims
-specifically targets

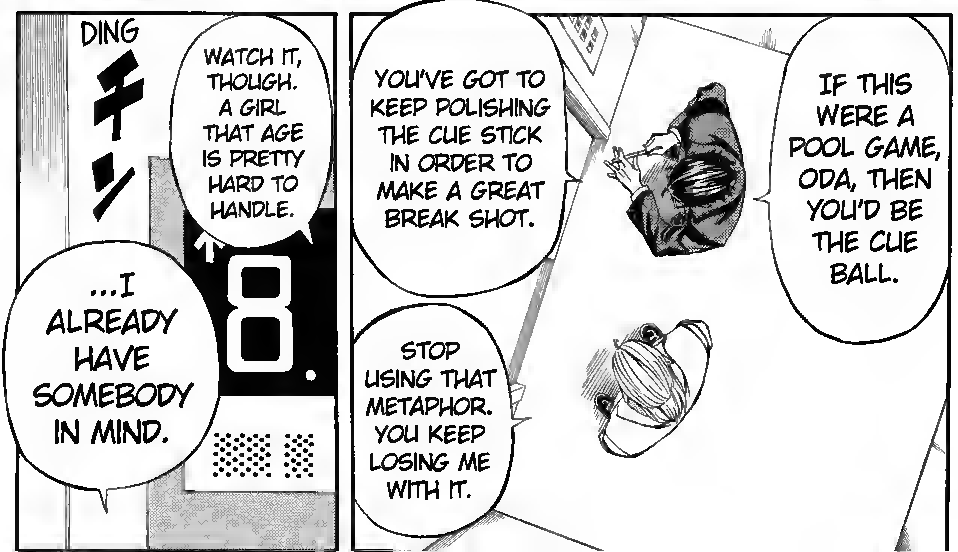
LOOKS LIKE HE SPECIFICALLY TARGETS VIRGINS.
Kiyoshi Hentai
Swipe

...HE'S THE VICTIM HERE.
THAT MAKES HIM SOUND LIKE...
DEFILED?
HOW AWFUL.
...WE ASSISTORS WILL LIKELY...
...AT LEAST FOR THIS INCIDENT...
THAT CRITERIA'S BEEN ESTABLISHED SINCE BEFORE YOUR TIME HERE, SO...
YEAH, WELL... JUDGING BY THE NATURE AND METHODS OF HIS CRIMES, THERE WON'T BE ANY RETALIATION.
...SIT THIS ONE OUT.

VWOOM
ゴゴゴゴ
WAIT, THIS GIRL IS...
THAT'S RIGHT.
VWOOM
ゴゴゴゴ
IT'S BEEN SEVEN YEARS SINCE THEN.
RYOKO KOIZUMI... SHE WAS INVOLVED IN THE "AA INCIDENT."
THE "ADVENT ANGEL"...
SHE'S ONE OF THE FEW WHO MANAGED TO CLEAR ALL HURDLES LAID OUT BEFORE HER.
SHE MAY HAVE A FEW QUIRKS IN HER SKILL SET, BUT WE STILL CAN'T DENY IT.
VWOOM
ゴゴゴゴ
I KNOW WE'VE BEEN ACTIVELY RECRUITING HER FOR THIS GIG, BUT...
...I'D LIKE TO THINK THIS IS FATE.


IF WE CAN GET HER A GOOD MENTOR, SHE'LL MAKE A GREAT ASSISTOR.
KWIP
WELL, YOU'VE MADE THAT BUNCH WORK OUT ALL RIGHT.
I'M SURE SHE'LL BE FINE, TOO.
Tokyo Metropolitan Police
Assistant Superintendent
Kenji Okumura (Age 45)

...NINE ASSISTORS.
...THIS WILL BRING US TO...


DING
チン
WATCH IT, THOUGH. A GIRL THAT AGE IS PRETTY HARD TO HANDLE.
...I ALREADY HAVE SOMEBODY IN MIND.
8.
YOU'VE GOT TO KEEP POLISHING THE CUE STICK IN ORDER TO MAKE A GREAT BREAK SHOT.
STOP USING THAT METAPHOR. YOU KEEP LOSING ME WITH IT.
IF THIS WERE A POOL GAME, ODA, THEN YOU'D BE THE CUE BALL.

BEGINNING WITH THE RATIO DECIDENDI...
WE WILL NOW ANNOUNCE SENTENCING.
裁判所
Courthouse
THE NATURE OF THESE ACTS HAD APPARENTLY NOT WARRANTED THE DESIRE!
THE VICTIMS' FAMILIES FROM THE OTHER MURDER CASES HAVE NOT COME FORWARD WITH RETALIATION REQUESTS IN THE PAST!
STATEMENTS HAVE BEEN POSTPONED, BUT WE PREDICT THE SENTENCING WILL BE HARSH!
HOWEVER, A REQUEST HAS BEEN FILED FOR THIS PARTICULAR TRIAL!
NHK
THE RETALIATION REQUEST MAKES THIS AN EXTREMELY RARE SENTENCING!
...TO BE EXECUTED BY RETALIATION!
THEREFORE, WE ORDER THE ACCUSED, KIYOSHI HENTAI...

YAMMER
YO, HARUKA.
duuuuh
BR RR ING
YAMMER
Co.
社
桜桃出版社
Sakuranbo Publishing Co.

SPACING OUT LIKE THAT JUST 'CUZ YOU'RE A NEWBIE...
IS YOUR HEAD AS HOLLOWED OUT AS YOUR CHEST?
The stuff you make tastes like crap
I'LL MAKE MY OWN DAMN COFFEE.

YOU WANT COFFEE?
...YEAH, CHIEF?
HARUUUU!!!

DUUUUH
chew
chew

THIS IS WHAT YOU'RE AFTER, RIGHT?
BUT DO IT AFTER THIS JOB!
FLAP

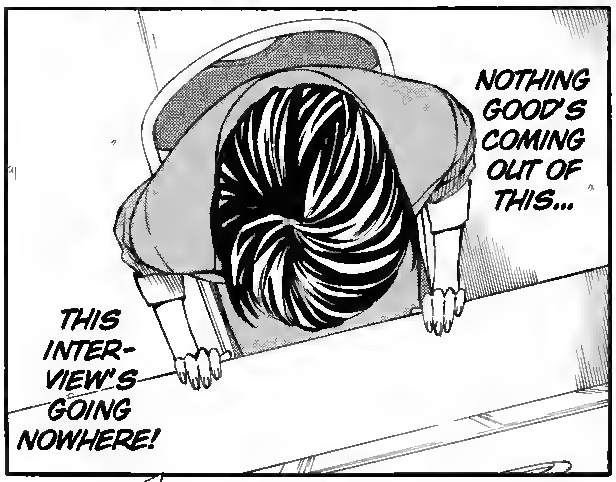
GO AHEAD! SUE MY PANTS OFF!
HAR-RASS-MENT ?!
...CHIEF, THAT'S CLEAR-CUT SEXUAL HAR--
I'LL FORGIVE YA!
IRE

Glance
HOL-LOW?

THE GOVERNMENT'S LIKELY USING THE MEDIA TO SPREAD AWARENESS OF THIS EXECUTION, AND BY EXTENSION, THE LAW AS WELL.
I BET I KNOW WHY WE GOT THIS CHANCE.
Interview clearance
RETALIATION DEATH ROW INMATE INTERVIEW CLEARANCE?!
TELL ME... WILL IT BE BIG, OR WILL IT BE BIG?
YOU'VE BEEN SINKING YOUR TEETH INTO THE SUBJECT.
GNAW
GNAW
Uh, that's the one I was eating
...YEAH. SO... I'M GONNA BE INTERVIEWING HIM?
.....
BUT I'M STILL THE ONE WHO SCORED FOR THE TEAM! SO IF YOU'RE JUMPING FOR JOY, THEN FLY INTO MY ARMS AND GIMME A BIG FAT HUG!!
WHAT DO I THINK?
REAL BIG.

THIS GUY...
Tokyo Detention Center
...HE'S THE ONE BEHIND THOSE SERIAL RAPE AND MURDER CASES...
GULP
ゴクリ
STAAAAAARE
MUTTER
MUTTER
...THERE'S THIS... OMINOUS VIBE ABOUT HIM...
ONCE YOU FINALLY SIT DOWN FACE-TO-FACE...
ARE YOU REALLY AN UNSPOILED VIRGIN? EH?!
HUFF
HUFF
WHAT'S WITH THIS GUY?!
WH-WH-WH-WHAT THE HELL?!
WHA-?!

HUFF
HUFF
THIS IS NO GOOD...
HE'S GOT NO REMORSE AT ALL!
I BET THIS DELUSION'S THE DAMN CHIEF'S DOING!
I AGREED TO THIS INTERVIEW 'CUZ THEY SAID A VIRGIN REPORTER WOULD BE DOING IT!
I'M NOT TALKING IF SHE'S ALREADY DIRTY!


NOTHING GOOD'S COMING OUT OF THIS...
THIS INTERVIEW'S GOING NOWHERE!

BAM
WHAT THE HELL DO YOU KNOW ABOUT ME?!
GOOD QUESTION, ASSHOLE!
EEK!

STAND DOWN, HENTAI!
THAT'S WHY I THINK THERE'S ONLY TWO KINDS IN THIS WORLD!
ESPECIALLY WOMEN, YOU WHORE!
IN STUDIES! IN JOB HUNTING! IN WOMEN!

THIS WORLD'S BEEN HELL-BENT ON DISCRIMINATING AGAINST ME FROM THE BEGINNING!!

AND NOW THEY'RE DISCRIMI-NATING AGAINST ME IN HOW I DIE!
IT WAS DEATH BY HANGING FOR MURDER-RAPES UP UNTIL NOW!
BUT WHY DON'T I GET THAT, HUH?!
WHY AM I GETTING AXED BY RETALIA-TION?!
OTHER RAPISTS HAVE HIGHER RAPE-KILL SCORES THAN ME!
SO WHY DO THEY DOLE OUT DIFFERENT JUDG-MENTS WHEN...
...THERE'S A VIC'S FAMILY PRESENT OR NOT?!
OR WHEN THERE'S A REQUEST TO RE-TALIATE OR NOT?!
WHERE'S THE GOD-DAMN LOGIC IN THAT?!

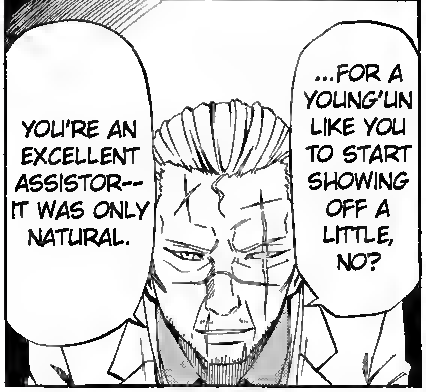
THEY CAN'T JUDGE AND PUNISH THE SAME CRIMES EQUALLY THAT WAY!!
THE COURTS SHOULD NEVER HAVE LET VICTIMS' SENTIMENTS DETERMINE SENTENCING!
NOTHI-IIIING!!
WHOEVER CAME UP WITH THE RETALIATION SYSTEM DOESN'T KNOW A DAMN THING ABOUT HOW THIS WORLD SHOULD WORK!
DRAG
...WHAT HE SAID ABOUT THE RETALIATION SYSTEM...
I CAN'T EVER CONSIDER HIM ON THE LEVEL AFTER THE CRIMES HE'S COMMITTED, BUT...
...ISN'T... ENTIRELY MISTAKEN.

THERE MUST BE SOME KIND OF MISTAKE!
WHAT ?!
NEWCOMER RYOKO KOIZUMI, SIR.
AND ME, SIR.
NAME'S KOUTA KIYODERA.
WAIT...
WHY AM I...?

WHY AM I ASSIGNED TO BE THEIR COACH?!
CAPTAIN ODA?!
sniff sniff
THESE GUYS...
……

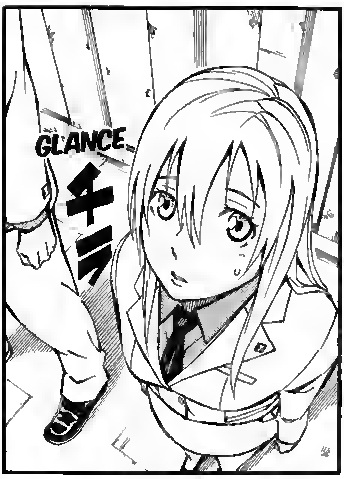
ZZZ
IS THERE A PROBLEM, YUUJI?
TWO NEW RECRUITS AT ONCE? THIS IS A RARITY.
...ARE GENUINE ASSISTORS...

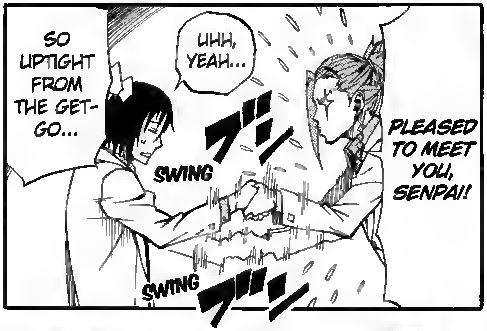
THE PERSONNEL AND OFFICES ARE CERTAINLY OUT OF THE ORDINARY.

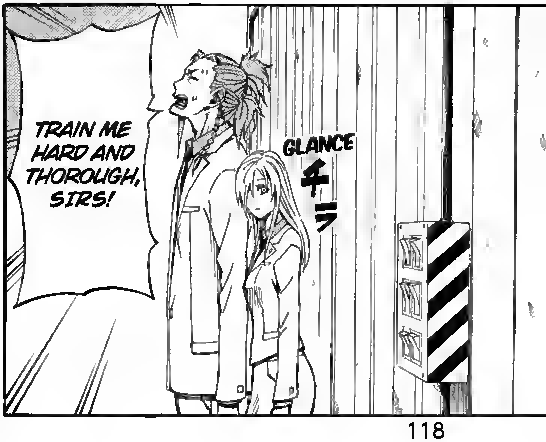

YOU'RE AN EXCELLENT ASSISTOR-- IT WAS ONLY NATURAL.
...FOR A YOUNG'UN LIKE YOU TO START SHOWING OFF A LITTLE, NO?

IT'S ABOUT TIME...
ARE YOU SURE I'D MAKE A GOOD COACH?
THERE MUST BE OTH-ERS--

...I NEVER GOT THE MEMO, SIR...

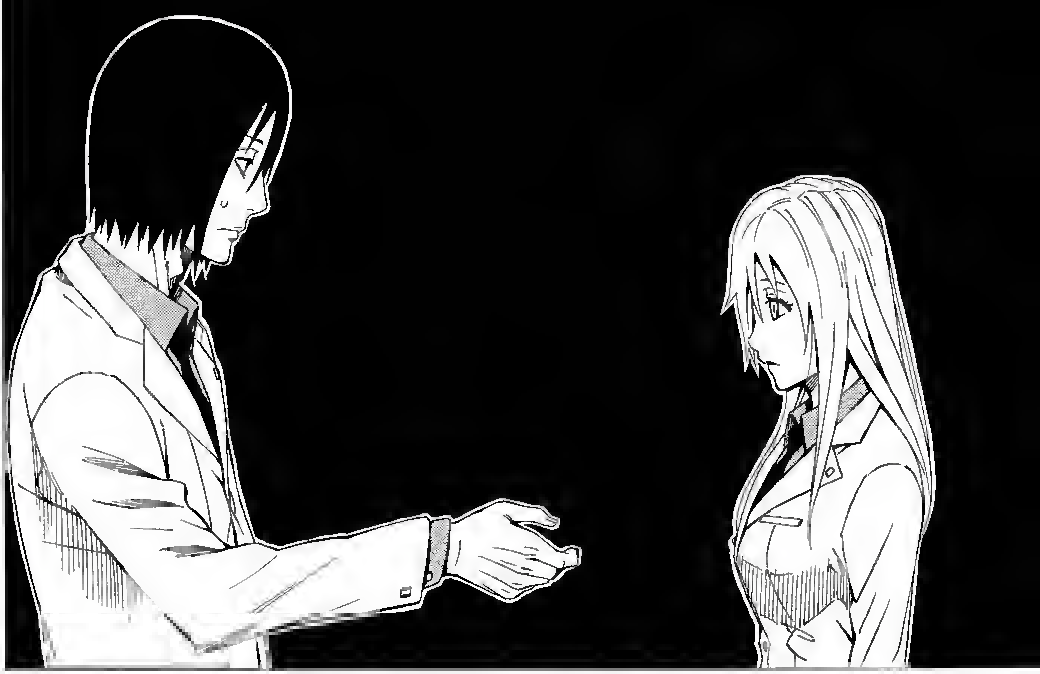

GLANCE
チラ

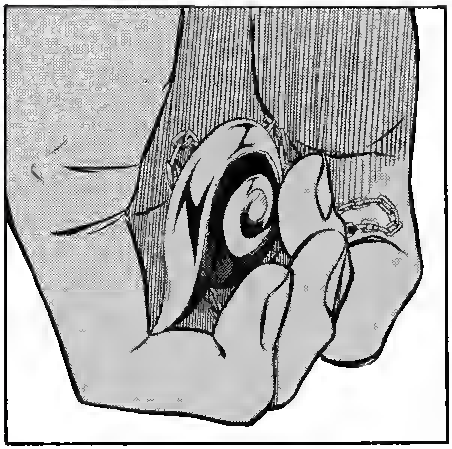

SO UPTIGHT FROM THE GET-GO...
UHH, YEAH...
SWING
SWING
PLEASED TO MEET YOU, SENPAI!

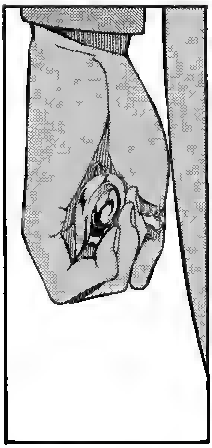

TRAIN ME HARD AND THOROUGH, SIRS!
GLANCE
チラ

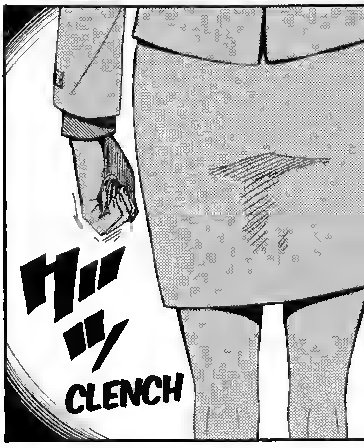
SHIFT
!
SIR!

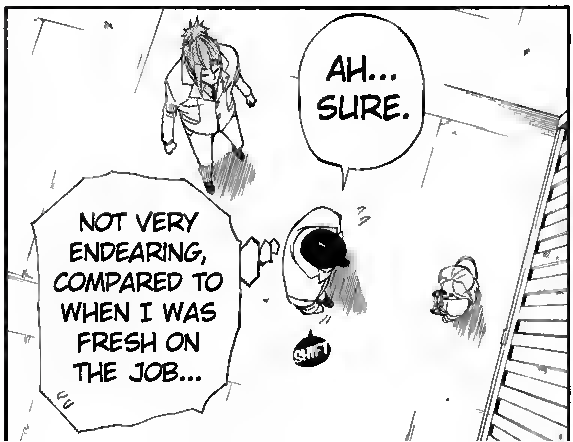
HUHN?
!
!
ER?
NICE TO MEET YOU.
WHERE HAVE I...
...SEEN THIS GIRL BEFORE ...?
THE PLEASURE IS MINE, SIR.
ANY-WAY, A PLEA-SURE.
WHAT? OH NO, I MUST BE MISTAKEN.
HARASSING ME FROM THE GET-GO, SIR?
IT'S...OUR FIRST TIME, RIGHT?
?

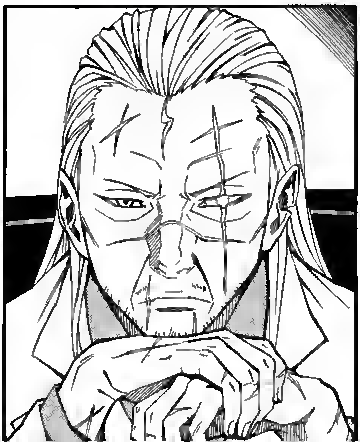




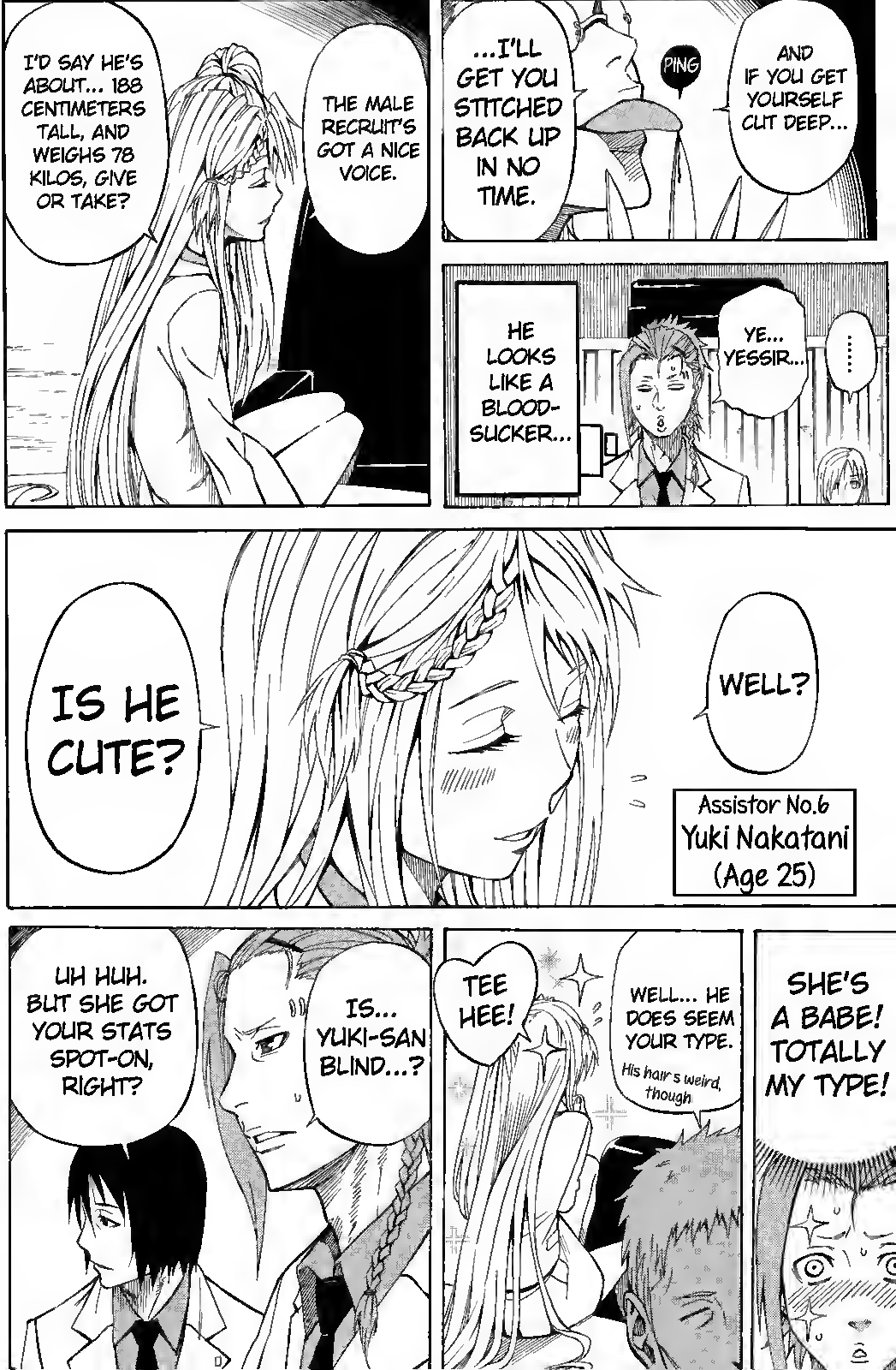



CLENCH


AH... SURE.
NOT VERY ENDEARING, COMPARED TO WHEN I WAS FRESH ON THE JOB...



SINCE THE AIRLINE COMPANY THAT OWNED THIS HANGAR WENT UNDER, WE APPROPRIATED IT FOR OURSELVES.
AS YOU CAN SEE, THIS IS THE ASSISTORS' LAIR.
HEY, NEW GUYS, NO NEED TO BE SO UPTIGHT AROUND US.
SWIP
DEATH
...THEN THAT MEANS THERE'S A WHOLE LOTTA NEW DEAD PEOPLE OUT THERE.
BESIDES, IF WE'RE ACTUALLY BUSY...
HEY, WHY BOTHER TO GLOSS IT OVER?
FACTS ARE FACTS.
CLINK CLINK
CONSIDER IT OUR OWN LITTLE COFFEE SHOP BETWEEN JOBS, EH?
PRESS
GLU-GLUB
DON'T MAKE US LOOK BAD IN FRONT OF THE NEWBIES!
IF THE RETALIATION INVOLVES STABBING AND SHARP OBJECTS...
...THEN I'M USUALLY WHO THEY TURN TO.
SLURP
FORMER MD YOSHIHIKO HAGIWARA, FOLKS.
SWIP
Special Task Force
Assistor No.3
Yoshihiko Hagiwara
(Age 36)


I'D SAY HE'S ABOUT... 188 CENTIMETERS TALL, AND WEIGHS 78 KILOS, GIVE OR TAKE?
THE MALE RECRUIT'S GOT A NICE VOICE.
...I'LL GET YOU STITCHED BACK UP IN NO TIME.
PING
AND IF YOU GET YOURSELF CUT DEEP...
HE LOOKS LIKE A BLOOD-SUCKER...
YE... YESSIR...
.....
IS HE CUTE?
WELL?
Assistor No.6
Yuki Nakatani
(Age 25)
UH HUH. BUT SHE GOT YOUR STATS SPOT-ON, RIGHT?
IS... YUKI-SAN BLIND...?
TEE HEE!
WELL... HE DOES SEEM YOUR TYPE.
His hair's weird, though.
SHE'S A BABE! TOTALLY MY TYPE!

SHE CAN EVEN TELL THROUGH SCENTS IN THE AIR.
EVEN IN TOTAL DARKNESS, SHE CAN SENSE THINGS OUT THROUGH, SAY, THE WAVELENGTH OF SOUNDS, WHERE THEY REFLECT FROM...
JUST LIKE A BAT IN A CAVE.
I'M THE ONLY FLOWER IN THIS DIRT HEAP!
HMPH
WHO'RE YOU CALLING A BAT?
THAT ABILITY...
...IS HER WEAPON.
THE ASSISTOR WITH A PURE HEART AND MONSTER STRENGTH.
NOBORU HINOMURA-KUN.
RYOKO-CHAN IS LIKE A DOLL.
RYOKO-CHAN IS PRETTY, BUT A DIFFERENT PRETTY THAN YUKI...
ASSISTOR NO.5
NOBORU HINOMURA
(AGE 30)
SMOOCH

IRONIC, COMING FROM YOU.
C'MON, LET'S NOT ARGUE ABOUT LOOKS AND SUCH...
YOU ONLY SAY THAT BECAUSE I CAN'T SEE.
NONE OF US HAVE SEEN HIS REAL FACE BEFORE.
THAT'S OUR SLEEPING BEAUTY.
.....
AAAAAAND HE'S OUT AGAIN.
KYOUGEN CHIKAMATSU, FOLKS.
Mirror
鏡
Assistor No. 4
Kyougen Chikamatsu
(Age ??)
FIGHTS START WARS, Y'KNOW.
DON'T START FIGHTS, SON.
SHIVER
SHIVER
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
THE NAME'S KOMATSU HORIBE, YOUR FRIENDLY AMBASSADOR OF PEACE.
Assistor No. 1
Komatsu Horibe
(age ??)

IT WAS ALL A TERRIBLE MESS, YES IT WAS...
I SAW THINGS DURING THE WAR, SON...
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
THASSA GOOD KITTY...
MEW...
WHEN DID BWA HE?!
-?!
SHAKE
SHAKE
I NEVER NOTICED...
!!
HE'S EATING CAT FOOD?!
HUNGER'S THE GREATEST ENEMY, AND ALL THAT.
IT'S GOOD STUFF. HERE. WANT SOME?
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
SCATTE
SCATTE
THIS RECRUIT IS SYMPATHIZING WITH THE OLD MAN?!
HIS YOUTH MUST'VE BEEN ROUGH!
GLADLY PARTAKE, SIR!
YES-SIR!
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
EAT UP, SON!
.....
...THEN HE'S LIVED WELL OVER A CENTURY..!
IF HE'S A FORMER IMPERIAL SOLDIER, THEN...

THE NAME'S SAKURADA.
A pleasure.
Assistor No. 2
Kazunari Sakurada
(Age 44)
WE ASSISTORS ARE ALL A COLLECTION OF QUIRKS, ALL RIGHT.
I'M THIRD IN SENIORITY HERE, AFTER CAPTAIN ODA AND OLD MAN KOMATSU.
YUUJI YAMAGISHI.
Yeah, keep saying that.
AND THAT GUY'S YOUR NEW GUARDIAN- OUR OWN RISING STAR...
Assistor No. 7
Yuuji Yamagishi
(Age 24)
OH GOOD, THERE'S AT LEAST ONE NORMAL-LOOKING DUDE HERE...
PHEW

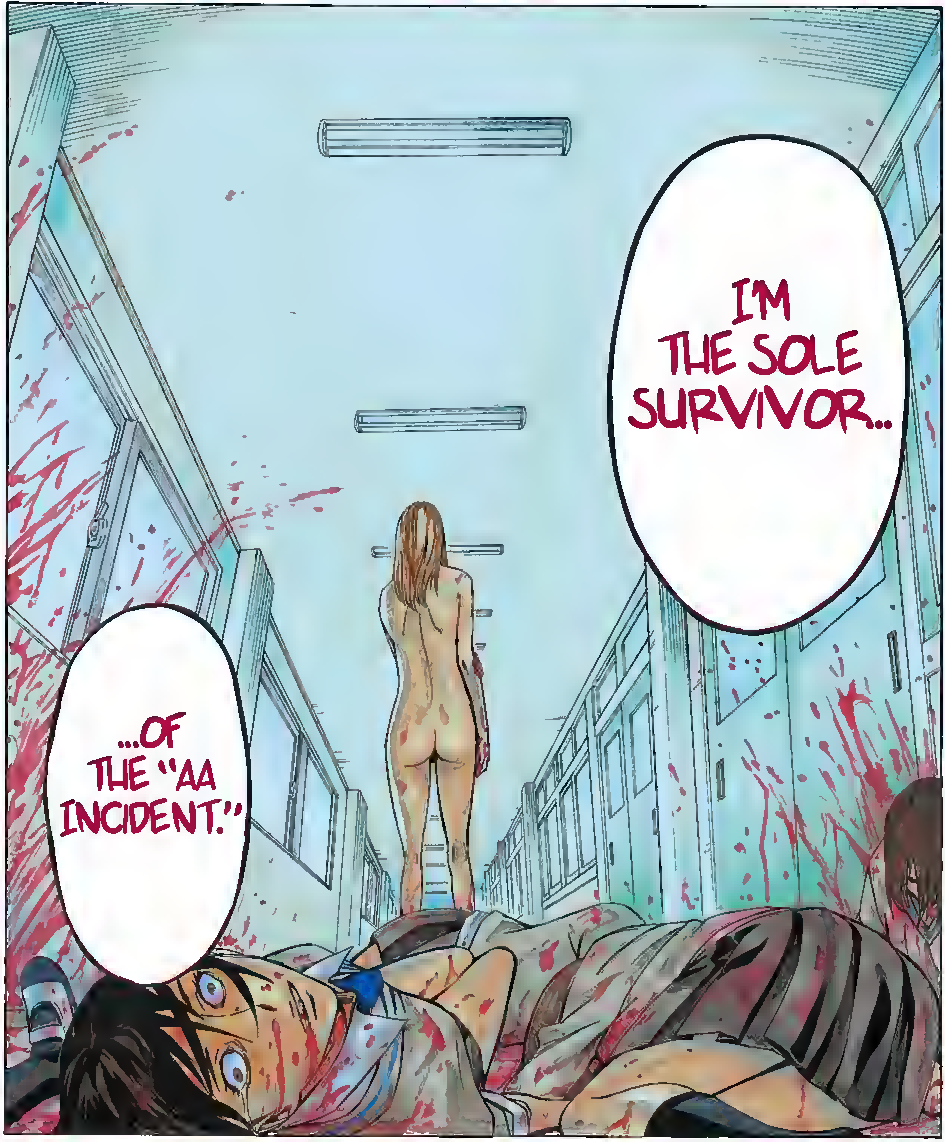
I HEARD THAT FROM CAPTAIN ODA.
...AND HE'S ALWAYS COMPARING THIS TO THAT.
A MOUSEY, WORRYWART-KIND OF GUY...
PERSON-ALITY-WISE, HE'S...
TAP
UGH
HEH HEH... BINGO.
FOR ALL THAT, THOUGH, HE CAN BE DAFT ENOUGH TO LOSE SIGHT OF HIS MOTHER'S PRECIOUS MEMENTO.
SO MUCH FOR BEING THEIR SENIOR...
AND ALREADY, THERE GOES MY DIGNITY...
YES-SIR.
...YOU BETTER WORK HIM HARD.
IF YOU DON'T WANNA CATCH THE BUG FROM HIM...

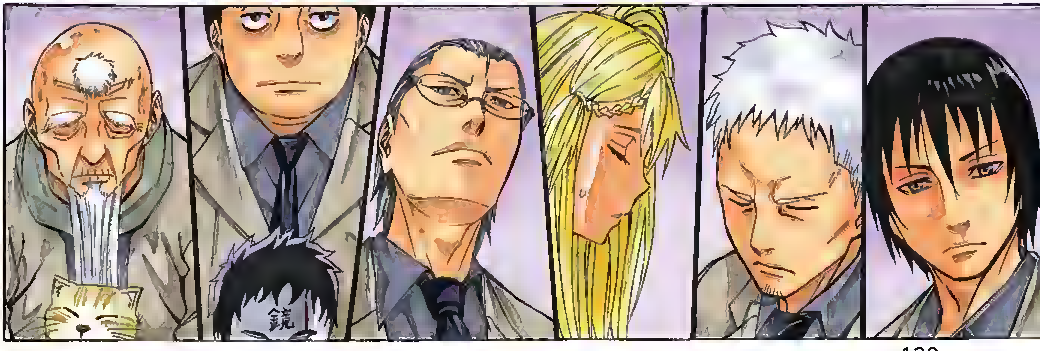
...WITH VICTIMS AND THEIR FAMILIES.
THESE TWO ELEMENTS ALLOW THEM TO RISK THEIR LIVES ON THE JOB.
THEREFORE, THEY SHOULD ALREADY BEAR A DEEP HATRED TOWARDS CRIME, AND FORM INSTANT, DEEP BONDS...
...IS WHETHER OR NOT THEY'VE BEEN A VICTIM OF A CRIME, OR ARE THE FAMILY OF A VICTIM.
BUKEDACHI
AHEM
ANYWAY, WHAT MAKES ONE QUALIFIED TO BE AN ASSISTOR...
AS FAR AS YOUR PAST EXPERIENCES ARE CONCERNED, THOUGH...
...WE WON'T ASK, AND WE WON'T PRY.
I'M SURE YOU'D LIKE TO KEEP IT ALL A SECRET.
DO REALIZE, THOUGH, THAT THOSE SECRETS WILL EVENTUALLY...
NNGH
...BE KNOWN TO ALL OF US HERE.

I DON'T INTEND TO HIDE MY SECRETS EITHER, SIR.
RATHER, YOUR BEING CONSIDERATE OF ME UNTIL THOSE SECRETS ARE KNOWN WILL ONLY CAUSE ME STRESS.
!!
FURTHER-MORE, I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT A SQUIRRELY GUY LIKE YOU...
...IS CAPABLE OF WATCHING OVER US RECRUITS.
SINCE YOU WON'T BOTHER TO KNOW ABOUT US...
YOU FEAR THE DARKNESS.
YOU DIDN'T EVEN NOTICE THE AIRCRAFT--YOU CHECKED FOR ILLUMINATION FROM THE CEILING FIRST.
GLANCE
チラ
RIGHT AFTER THAT, YOU CHECKED WHERE ALL THE LIGHT SWITCHES WERE.
...I NOTICED WHEN YOU FIRST WALKED INTO THE HANGER.
GLANCE
チラ
AND ONE MORE THING...

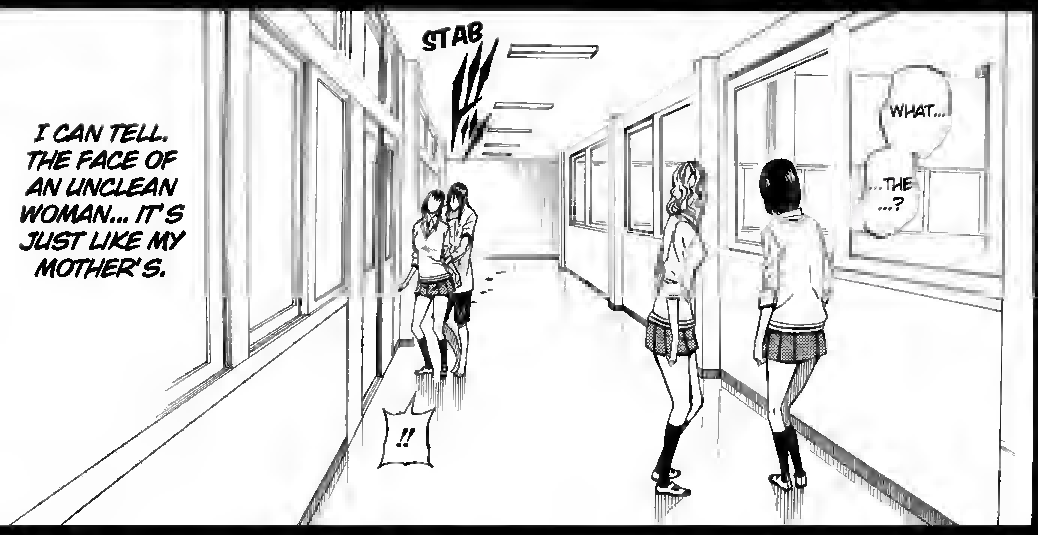
YOU WERE ASSAULTED BY A MAN IN THE PAST.
BACK THEN...
...YOU REFUSED TO SHAKE MY HAND BECAUSE I WAS MALE.
YOU'RE PROBABLY DOING THIS UNCONSCIOUSLY, BUT...
...THAT EXPLAINS WHY YOUR BACK'S AGAINST THE CONTAINER.
THERE'S ALSO SOMETHING IN YOUR LEFT HAND...
I GUESS I ENDED UP PRYING, AFTER ALL.
APOLOGIES IF ANY OF THAT WAS OFF THE MARK.

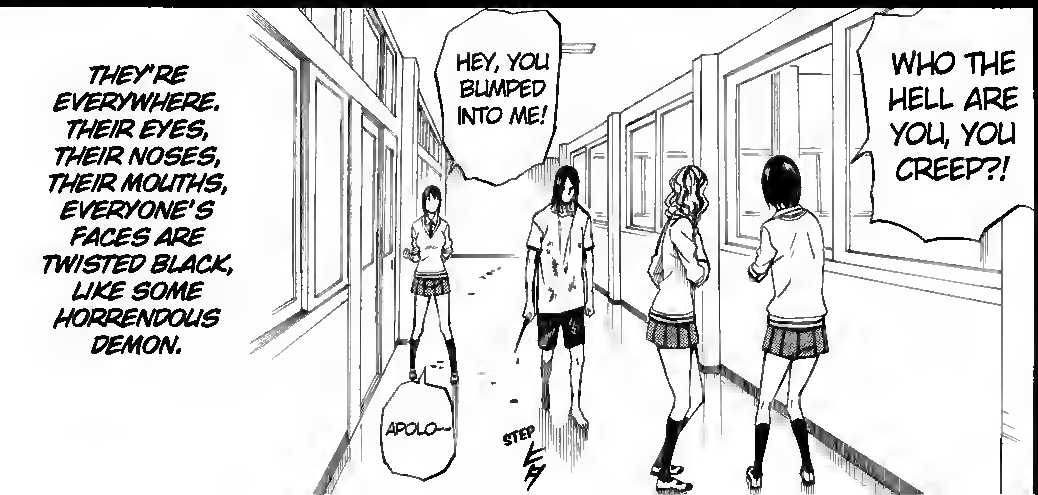
HOLY COW, HE'S SHARP!
BUT I BET HE CAN BE THAT WAY BECAUSE HE'S A SQUIRRELY KINDA GUY!
.....
...ACTUALLY...
...I'M THE REASON WHY THE GOVERNMENT INSTALLED THE RETALIATION PENALTY SEVEN YEARS AGO...
SWIP
YANK


I'M THE SOLE SURVIVOR..
...OF THE "AA INCIDENT."


鏡

GOOD IDEA!
PLAP
HEY, LET'S DITCH PRACTICE TODAY.
PLAP

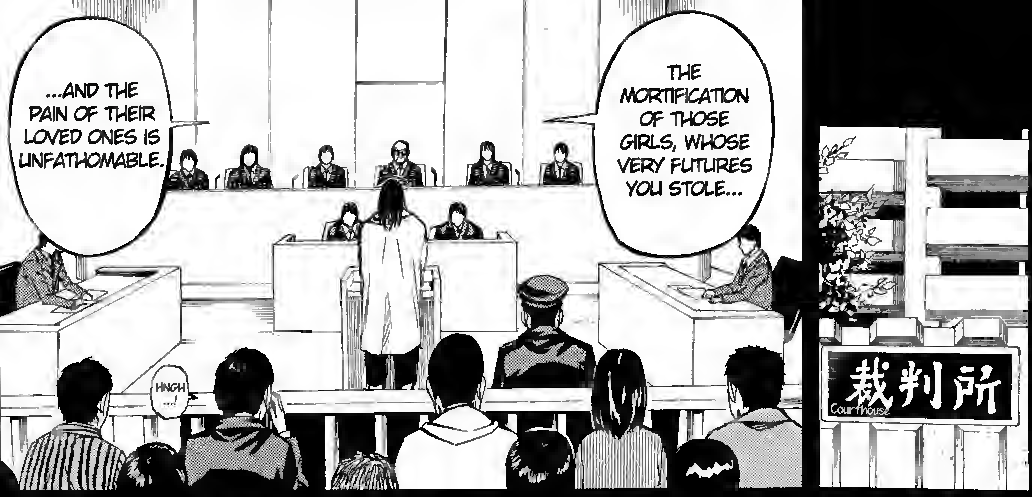

I CAN TELL. THE FACE OF AN UNCLEAN WOMAN... IT'S JUST LIKE MY MOTHER'S.
STAB
WHAT...
...THE ...?
!!

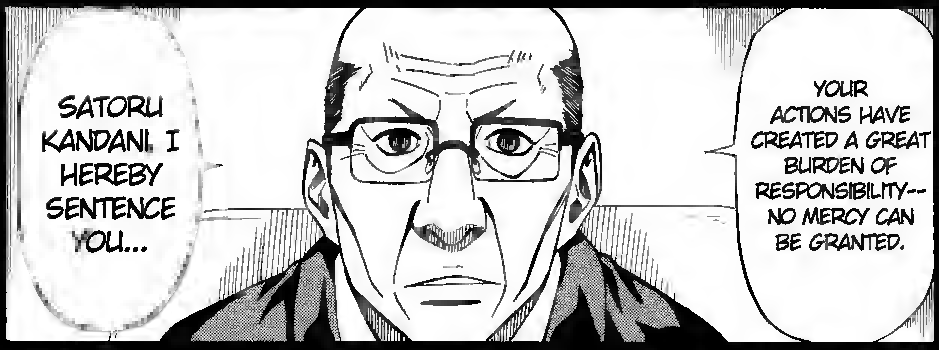

THEY'RE EVERYWHERE. THEIR EYES, THEIR NOSES, THEIR MOUTHS, EVERYONE'S FACES ARE TWISTED BLACK, LIKE SOME HORRENDOUS DEMON.
HEY, YOU BUMPED INTO ME!
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU, YOU CREEP?!
APOLO--
STEP

?
-GIZE
I MUST...
WHA--
!
...CLEANSE THEM ALL...!
SLICE
WHA--
ALL BECAUSE I WAS BORN FROM THAT FILTHY WOMAN, GOD DAMMIT!!!
I'M A DEVIL!
I...
I'M...
MY... MY... WEE-WEE...

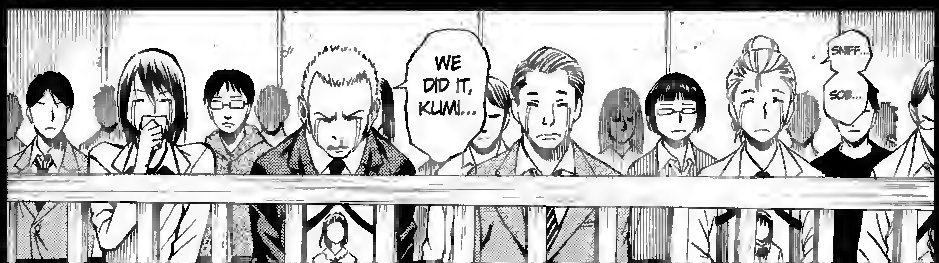
UGH, I CAN'T BELIEVE I FORGOT MY LUNCH BOX.
WHAT'S... GOING ON?!
!
WHUMP
...A SUCH... BEAUTIFUL FACE...
GLANCE
AH.... AHH- HHH- HH...
...MY ANGEL!
I FINALLY FOUND YOU...

WE FINALLY MEET...
CLATTER
URGH!!
CLEANSE ME OF THE DEVIL'S CURSE, PLEASE!!
NNNGH ...!
SLICE


...AND THE PAIN OF THEIR LOVED ONES IS UNFATHOMABLE.
THE MORTIFICATION OF THOSE GIRLS, WHOSE VERY FUTURES YOU STOLE...
HNGH...
裁判所
COURTHOUSE


SATORU KANDANI. I HEREBY SENTENCE YOU...
YOUR ACTIONS HAVE CREATED A GREAT BURDEN OF RESPONSIBILITY-- NO MERCY CAN BE GRANTED.

...TO DEATH!


WE DID IT, KUMI...
SNIFF...
SOB...

I CAN'T EVEN REMEMBER WHAT A PROPER HUMAN FACE LOOKS LIKE ANY MORE...
...THEIR EYES, THEIR NOSES, THEIR MOUTHS... ALL WERE TWISTED BLACK BEYOND RECOGNITION...
I FINALLY REMEMBERED WHAT A HUMAN FACE LOOKS LIKE THANKS TO HER! YAH HAH HAH HAH!
ADVENT ANGEL!!
THEY ALL LOOKED LIKE MY MOTHER! THEY WEREN'T GONNA GET ANY MERCY FROM ME!!
...ALL OF THEM WERE BLACK-FACED DEVILS WITH IMPURE HEARTS!
EVERY ONE OF THOSE I KILLED...
OVER HERE, KANDAI!!
ADVENT ANGEL!!
DRAG
DRAG
DRAG
WHY DO YOU THINK HE SENT DOWN AN ANGEL TO ME?!
IT'S GOD'S WILL THAT I DEALT WITH THEM LIKE THE TRASH THEY WERE! YEH HEH HEH HEH!
ADVENT ANGEL!!
ADVENT ANGEL!!
GIVE ME BACK MY DAU-GHT-ER!!
YOU'RE THE DEVIL HERE !!
LISTEN TO YOURSELF YOU MURDER-ER!

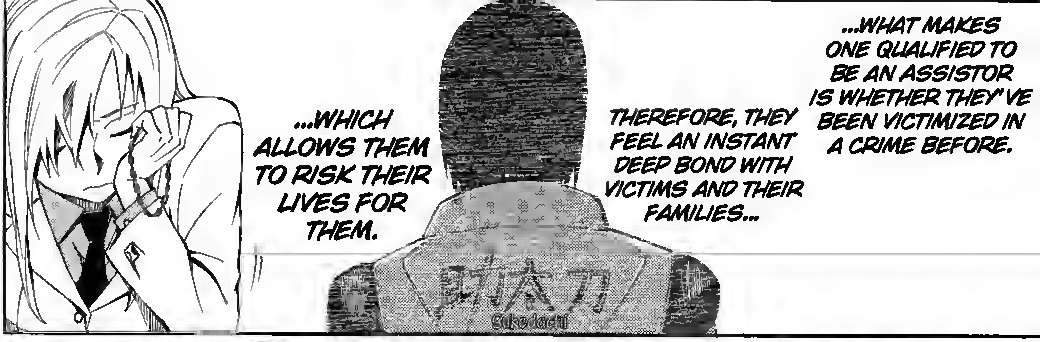
IN TIME, KANDANI'S EXECUTION WAS CARRIED OUT...
天歳万 Long live this soul under Heaven
IT'S OVER HERE!
MOVE IT, MONK!!
COUGH
コホン
I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF A SUTRA, SO IF YOU PLEASE...
CLATTER
カーン
WH-WHAT'S GOING ON?!
EEK!
IT'S THIS BASTARD. NO DOUBT ABOUT IT!
DON'T REST EASY YET, PUNK!

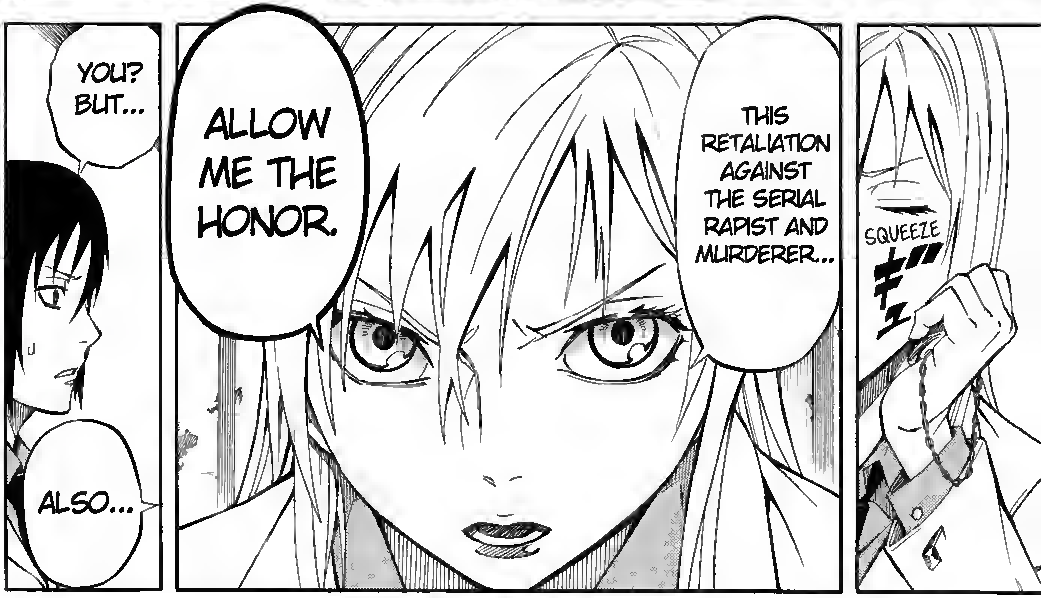
DANGLE
WE HAVEN'T HEARD ONE WORD OF APOLOGY FROM THIS BASTARD YET!!
CHOP SLASH
SLICE THE DEVIL UP!!
REPAID HIS DEBT?
STOP THIS PLEASE! MY SON REPAID HIS DEBT WITH HIS LIFE!
BRING MY CHILD BACK!!
DANGLE
DANGLE
YOU MADE THIS MONSTER!
THEN STAY OUT THE WAY YOU BITCH-DEMON!!
IF YOU CAN'T DO THAT...

WHAT WE COMMITTED WAS AN ATROCITY...
I WILL NOT DENY IT.
...BUT...
裁判所
Court House
...THAT BASTARD DIDN'T EVEN REFLECT ON HIS CRIMES...
HE WAS EXECUTED IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE... AND IT FELT SO MEANINGLESS... AND I REALIZED...
...ALL WE EVER WANTED...
...WAS TO EXECUTE THAT DEVIL OUR-SELVES...
...EX-ACTLY HOW HE EX-ECUTED THOSE WE LOST !!!

...HOW A PERPE-TRATOR'S LIFE OUGHT TO END?!
WHO GAVE THE RIGHT FOR COMPLETE STRAN-GERS TO DECIDE...
IT SEEMS THAT WAY.
.....
THE TIME HAS COME, HASN'T IT...?

THAT IS WHY...
...I'M HERE TODAY.
BUT I WANT YOU TO ENGRAVE JUST ONE THING ON YOUR HEART.
WE ARE ALL "ASSISTORS" HERE, FIRST AND FOREMOST.
YOU KNOW...
...THE MEN YOU LOOK DOWN ON ARE STILL LIVING CREATURES.


...WHAT MAKES ONE QUALIFIED TO BE AN ASSISTOR IS WHETHER THEY'VE BEEN VICTIMIZED IN A CRIME BEFORE.
THEREFORE, THEY FEEL AN INSTANT DEEP BOND WITH VICTIMS AND THEIR FAMILIES...
...WHICH ALLOWS THEM TO RISK THEIR LIVES FOR THEM.


YOU? BUT...
ALSO...
ALLOW ME THE HONOR.
THIS RETALIATION AGAINST THE SERIAL RAPIST AND MURDERER...
SQUEEZE
ギュ

SAME HERE...
COACH YUUJI YAMAGISHI !!
ALLOW ME TO REITERATE! IT'S A PLEASURE TO WORK WITH YOU!

English Digital Edition
Chapter 003

Sukedachi 09
助太刀09
Seishi Kishimoto

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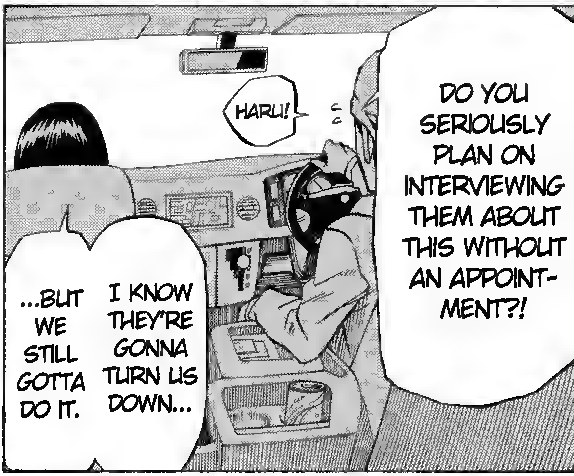
SUKEDACHI NINE
助太刀09

MIRROR:4
SIDE-A "RYOKO (2)"

I WANNA TALK TO THE VICTIM'S FAMILY ABOUT THIS, NO MATTER WHAT!
THIS IS THE FIRST EVER RETALIATION FOR A RAPE AND MURDER, RIGHT?

WE'RE JOURNAL-ISTS, AFTER ALL.

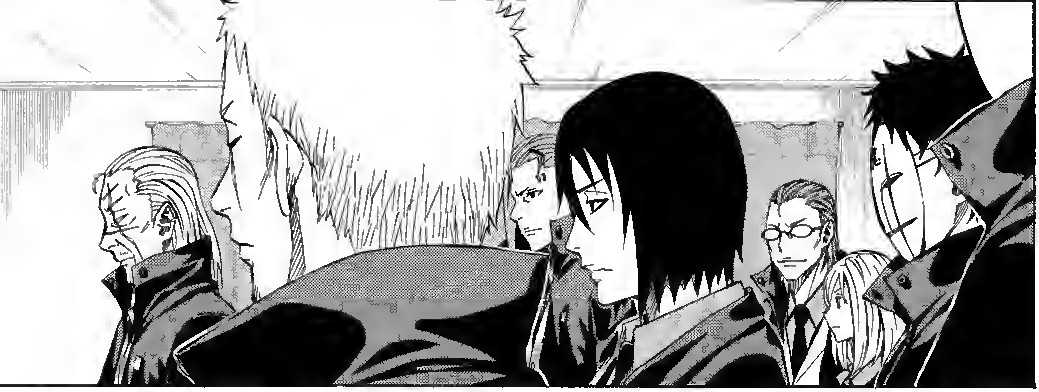

HARU!
DO YOU SERIOUSLY PLAN ON INTERVIEWING THEM ABOUT THIS WITHOUT AN APPOINT-MENT?!
I KNOW THEY'RE GONNA TURN US DOWN...
...BUT WE STILL GOTTA DO IT.

THE COURTS SHOULD NEVER HAVE LET VICTIMS' SENTIMENTS DETERMINE SENTENCING !!
THEY CAN'T JUDGE AND PUNISH THE SAME CRIMES EQUALLY THAT WAY!!

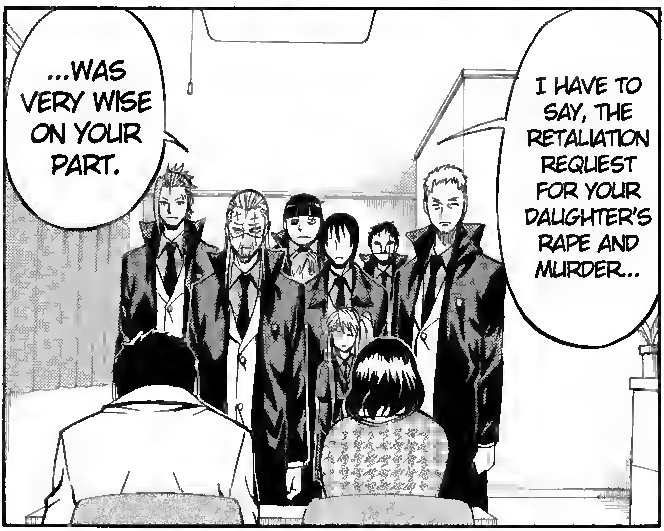
OR WHEN THERE'S A REQUEST TO RETALIATE OR NOT?! WHERE'S THE GODDAMN LOGIC IN THAT?!
SO WHY DO THEY DOLE OUT DIFFERENT JUDG-MENTS...
...WHEN THERE'S A VIC'S FAMILY PRESENT OR NOT?!

I FELT THE SAME WAY, TOO...
IF I MAKE LIKE YUUJI, AND COMPARE THEIR SIDE OF THE STORY WITH HENTAI'S, I MIGHT LATCH ON TO SOMETHING.
AND THAT'S WHY I MUST HEAR THE SIDE OF THE VICTIMS AND THEIR FAMILIES ALSO.
WE ASSIS-TORS...
PEEK
ピンポーン
BING BONG
MMN?
...WILL CARRY OUT THE EX-ECUTION.
FINALLY!

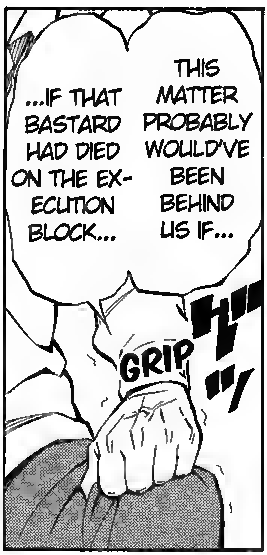
...I HAD TO ESPECIALLY MIGHT-DRIVE IT ALL THE WAY HERE...
STEER
THIS AREA'S FULL OF SCHOOL ZONES, AND...
STEER
SAVE THE EXCUSES.
TODAY'S AN IMPORTANT FACE-TO-FACE WITH THE VICTIMS.
ERGH ...!
AS IF YOU'RE ONE TO TALK...
You're never gonna be able to face them now
鏡
KCHAK
WHAT THE HELL HAP-PENED?!
THE RECRUITS' COACH SHOULD NEVER, EVER BE LATE TO ANYTHING, YUUJI!
S-SORRY, SIR...
NNGH...
GRRGH...



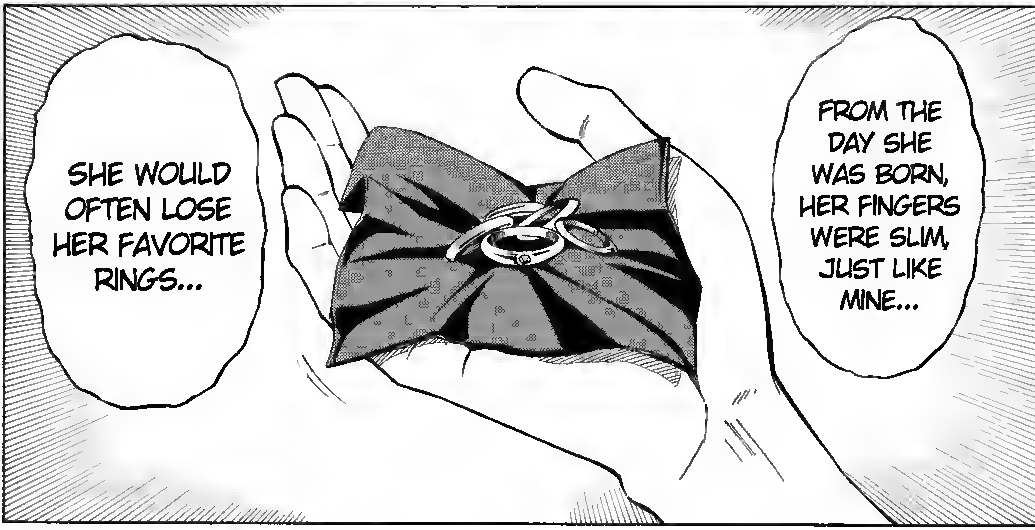
WE BELIEVE YOUR FEELINGS IN THIS MATTER...
...WILL HELP PREVENT SIMILAR EVENTS FROM HAPPENING IN THE FUTURE.

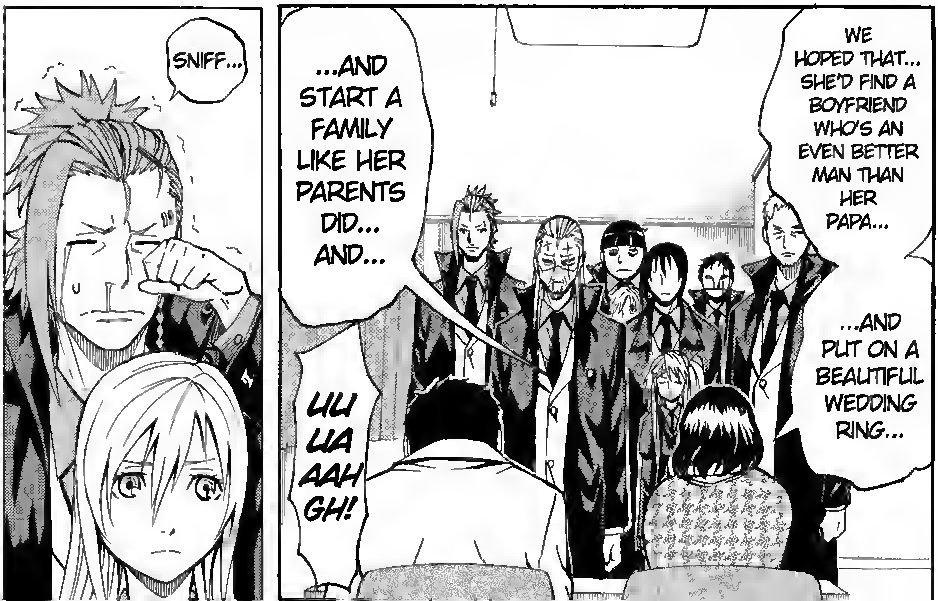

I HAVE TO SAY, THE RETALIATION REQUEST FOR YOUR DAUGHTER'S RAPE AND MURDER...
...WAS VERY WISE ON YOUR PART.

IT'S NO DIFFERENT FROM BEING IMPRISONED FOR LIFE!!
BUT... TIME HAS STOPPED FOR THE BOTH OF US!


THIS MATTER PROBABLY WOULD'VE BEEN BEHIND US IF...
...IF THAT BASTARD HAD DIED ON THE EXECUTION BLOCK...
GRIP

...WE JUST COULDN'T ACCEPT THE WAY THINGS STOOD...
HHH-GH...
...WHEN WE THINK ABOUT HIROMI'S SUFFER-ING...
WE THOUGHT... NO MATTER HOW HARD IT'LL BE FOR US TO WITNESS THE RETALIATION OURSELVES...


SHE WOULD OFTEN LOSE HER FAVORITE RINGS...
FROM THE DAY SHE WAS BORN, HER FINGERS WERE SLIM, JUST LIKE MINE...


SNIFF...
...AND START A FAMILY LIKE HER PARENTS DID... AND...
LILI LIA AAH GH!
WE HOPED THAT... SHE'D FIND A BOYFRIEND WHO'S AN EVEN BETTER MAN THAN HER PAPA...
...AND PUT ON A BEAUTIFUL WEDDING RING...

DING
SLIP
IF RETALIATION HADN'T BEEN PART OF THE PENAL CODE BY NOW...
...MAYBE I'D...
...I'D HAVE COMMITTED THE SAME ATROCITY AS THOSE VICTIMS...
...IN THAT CURSED AA INCIDENT SEVEN YEARS AGO.
SHFF

THAT'S NOT HAPPENING, SIR...
SLIP
NOT ON MY WATCH!
I WILL TAKE UP THIS RETALIATION.
Assistor No.8
Ryoko Koizumi (Age 23)
IF YOU WERE TO BE FELLED, THEN THE DÉJA VU WOULD BE UNBEARABLE...!
BUT WHY WOULD YOU DO THIS?!
YOU'RE ABOUT HIROMI'S AGE!

IS IT A DELIVERY?
ピンポーン
DING DONG
I KNOW.
HEY YUUJI...
I'D BE IN DEEP CRAP IF SHE SAW ME HERE!
IT'S AN INTER-VIEW! IT HAS TO BE!
H-HARU?!

BY LAW, THOSE WHO WILL WITNESS THE EXECUTION...
...ARE BOUND TO MAINTAIN THE UTMOST CONFIDENTIALITY...
CONCERNING WHO PERFORMS THE EXECUTION, THE WHEREABOUTS, AND SO FORTH.
HEY! REPORTERS AT THE DOOR!
THEY PROBABLY HAVE STAKEOUTS POSTED OUTSIDE, TOO.
THE TIMING'S TERRIBLE...
!!
WHEN DID HE... WAS HE EVER...?!
HOH!
HOH!
TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS... YES.
LEMME HANDLE THIS, KIDS.
tremble tremble
KA-CHAK
!
VRROOM
HEY !!
WHA--
WHAT THE --?!
HUH?
NO ONE'S ANSWERING... EXCUSE ME?
toddle toddle

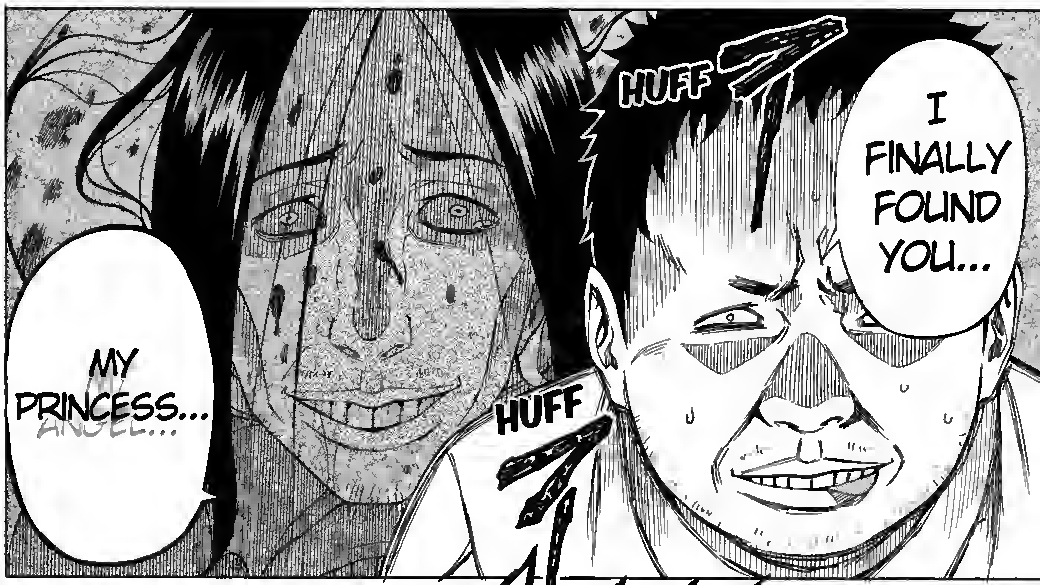
CAR THIEF!!
IT'S A 23 SQUARE KILOMETER CITY LEFT ABANDONED BY THE DE-POPULATION CRISIS.
IT'S SEALED OFF VIA WALLS BUILT BETWEEN THE TALLEST STRUCTURES. THERE IS NO ESCAPE.
THIS IS THE ARENA OF EXE-CUTION.
Schuiff
MY GOD...
有料
Parking lot fees
No unauthorized cars
契約車以
Free in-out
いつでも出
http://www
Real estate brokers
不動産の
Ltd.
株式会
No posters or flyers, please
貼紙禁止

YOU'RE GREEN-LIT TO CARRY OUT KIYOSHI HENTAI'S EXECUTION.
LIVE
YOU'RE ALLOWED TO SEVER HIS BODY PARTS...
...AS PART OF THE RETALIATION FOR HIS CRIME.
IT'S AS IF I'M WATCHING MY OWN DAUGH-TER...
IS SHE REALLY GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT OUT THERE?!
SIP
YES, SIR!
...FOR YOU TO HAVE A VIRTUAL EXPERIENCE OF THE RETALIATION.
VOOM
THOSE 3D VISORS WERE ORIGINALLY DESIGNED...
GILE
...WILL LEAD TO YOUR OWN SALVATION.
BUT I BELIEVE THAT THIS ASSISTOR'S EXECUTION OF HENTAI IN THE PLACE OF YOUR DAUGHTER...

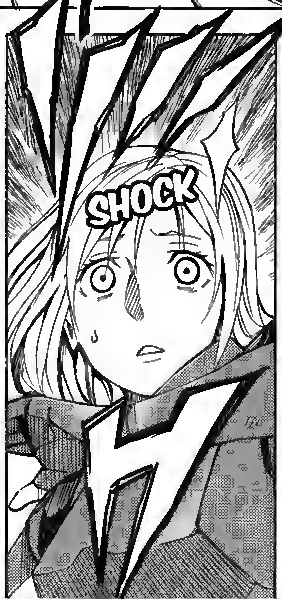
キリ
CLUTCH
ON BEHALF OF HIROMI-SAN AND HER FAMILY...
...AND FOR ALL THEIR HEARTS...
...I WILL GLADLY ASSIST.
AN ENFORCER... AND... AND A WOMAN TO BOOT...
HEH... HEH HEH...
SMIRK
...SO YOU DO LOOK DOWN ON WOMEN.
BUT...
GRIP
THIS WOMAN...
...WILL RENDER YOUR EXE-CUTION!

!
YOUR VOICE, YOUR LOOKS...
...YOU'RE A PICTURE-PERFECT BEAUTY.

I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS IS HOW MY LAST MOMENTS WILL END...


HUFF
I FINALLY FOUND YOU...
HUFF
MY PRINCESS... MY ANGEL...

HUFF
HUFF
TUMP
ドド

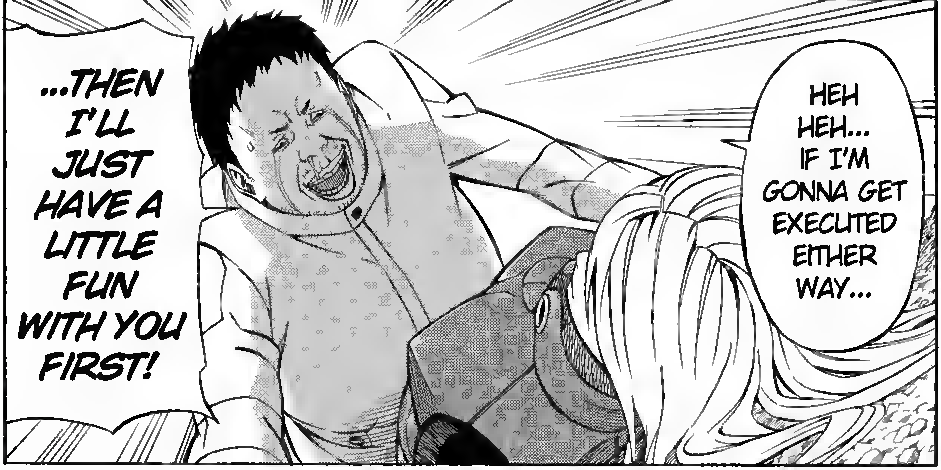

SHOCK

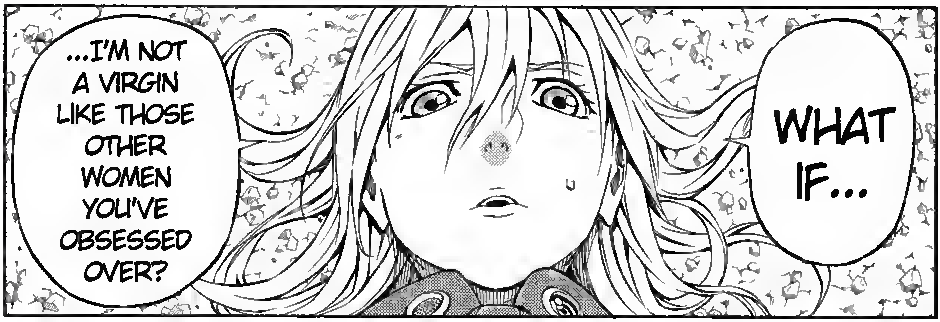
CLEANSE ME OF THE DEVIL'S CURSE...
PLEASE!!

GAH! HIRO-MI!!
.....
WHUMP
HA HA!
SKRUT
WHAT'RE YOU DOING, RYOKO?!
THIS IS TOO MUCH FOR HER!
ONLY ONE ASSISTOR IS ALLOWED TO PERFORM THE EXECUTION.
BUT I CAN'T STAND TO SEE HER LIKE THIS!
THE LAW PROHIBITS ANY HELP WHATSOEVER DURING THE DUEL.
YOU MAY BE THE AVENGER HERE, BUT THE MOMENT YOU DIRECTLY LAY YOUR HANDS ON HIM, IT WILL BECOME A HOMICIDE.
THAT SCUMBAG KNOWS NO BOUNDS!
I'M HEADING OVER THERE TO KILL THE BASTARD RIGHT NOW!!

SHUDDER
AS LONG AS YOU REMAIN A WITNESS... WE ASK YOU TO WATCH OVER THE PROCEEDINGS.
THIS IS WHAT A RETALIATORY EXECUTION IS, SIR!
...AND HAVE FAITH IN HER!
...SO THINK OF HER AS A SECOND CHILD...
...RYOKO HAS ALREADY LENT OUT HER EMPATHY TO HIROMI-SAN AND HER FAMILY...
AS AN ASSISTOR...

I BEG OF YOU.
I'LL BELIEVE IN HER.
LIVE
K-TAK
UNDER-STOOD...
LIVE
JITTER
.....
...THANK YOU, SIR.


HEH HEH... IF I'M GONNA GET EXECUTED EITHER WAY...
...THEN I'LL JUST HAVE A LITTLE FUN WITH YOU FIRST!


WHAT IF...
...I'M NOT A VIRGIN LIKE THOSE OTHER WOMEN YOU'VE OBSESSED OVER?

I DON'T GIVE A CRAP ABOUT THAT ANYMORE!

WITH YOUR SEAL INSCRIBED INTO THIS ANGEL YOU SENT DOWN... WE ARE NOW CLEANSED OF ALL SIN!
THANK YOU, GOD!
PRAISE THE LORD!
Twitch
ヒク
...THAT FACE I HAD LONG FORGOT-TEN ...
...THAT FACE I COULD NO LONGER SEE...
...THAT BLACK, TWISTED FACE...
NOW I CAN KILL MOTHER... BECAUSE WITH THIS...
...IS SOMETHING I MAY FINALLY BE ABLE TO SEE AGAIN...

HUFF
HIS FACE?!
HUFF
FEH!
.....
THIS IS...!
GRAB
SHUT UP!!
I SEE YOUR MIND, AND IT'S TWISTED BLACK.
I GET IT NOW... YOUR OBSESSION WITH VIRGINS?
AND MURDERING THEM? THOSE'RE JUST EXCUSES.
...AND HAVE YOU WHIMPERING FOR HELP!
I'LL SNUFF OUT THAT SASS OF YOURS...

KRAKKK
URR...
YEAAH!
YEESS!
I CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF THAT FACE!
I CAN'T HOLD IT IN NO MORE BABY! HERE I COME BABY!!
CLENCH
THAT'S RIGHT, BABY! THAT'S RIGHT! THAT'S THE FACE I LIKE!!
CRAP, I KILLED HER.
.....
LIMP

HER NECK !!
NO!

I FELLED THE BITCH, SO I GET TO SAY HELLO TO THAT THREE-YEAR AMNESTY THING.
AH, WHAT-EVER.
WIGGLE
WIGGLE

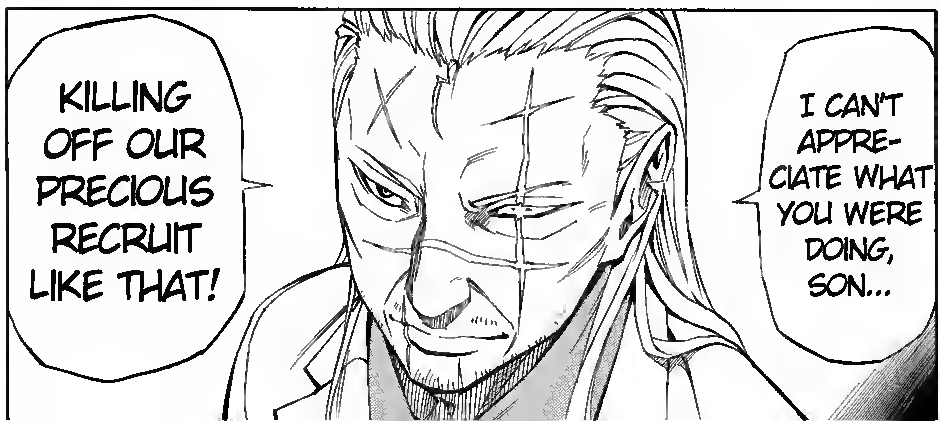
THINGS WERE GET-TING GOOD, TOO...
DAM-MIT.

OY! ARE ANY OF YOU PEOPLE LISTENING TO THIS?
ZOOM
BUT HOW THE HELL DO I TAKE OFF ALL THIS ARMOR, HMMN?
LIVE

I JUST HAVE TO TREAT HER LIKE A DEAD LAY OR SOME-THING.
GUESS I CAN STICK IT IN HER NOW.

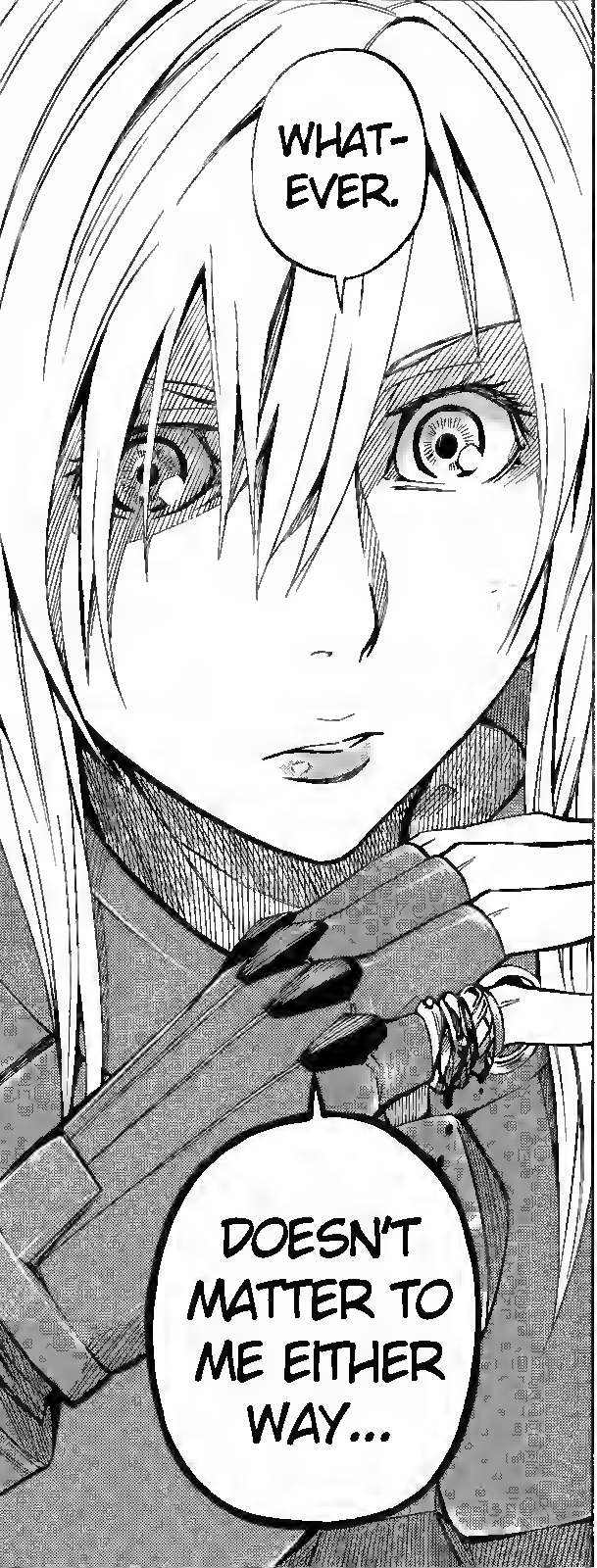
YOU DE-PRAVED SCUM-BAG!!
HELLOOO?
GRIT GRIT
GRAB
BWUH?

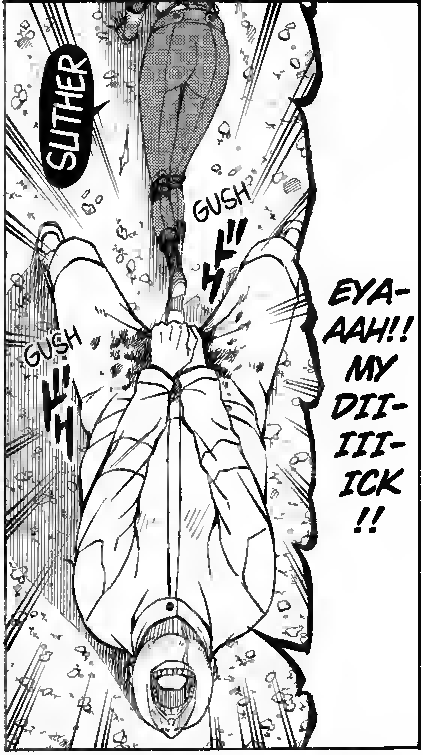
HIC
STREEETCH
T
WHO THE?!
CRICK
CRICK
CRICK

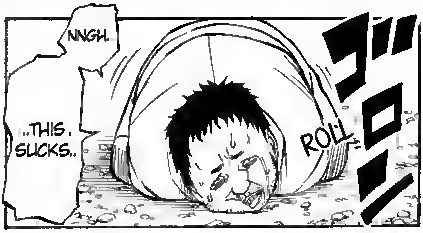

KILLING OFF OUR PRECIOUS RECRUIT LIKE THAT!
I CAN'T APPRE-CIATE WHAT YOU WERE DOING, SON...

IS SHE REALLY ALIVE?!
WHAT THE HELL?! HOW'S HER BODY STRETCHING AND TWISTING LIKE THAT?!
SHE'S ALIVE ?!
.....
...TOUCHING ME WILL COST YOU, HARD.
CROCK
YOU KNOW, BUB...
HI
YANK
WHAM

Slip
...YOU JUST WANTED TO GET LAID, DIDN'T YOU?
IN THE END...
HURK...
GLEAM
SPUT
YOU LITTLE PRICK !!
SLICE
I... I THINK I KNOW WHAT THAT IS...?!
EH?


WHAT-EVER.
DOESN'T MATTER TO ME EITHER WAY...


SLITHER
GUSH
GUSH
EYA-AAH!! MY DII-III-ICK !!

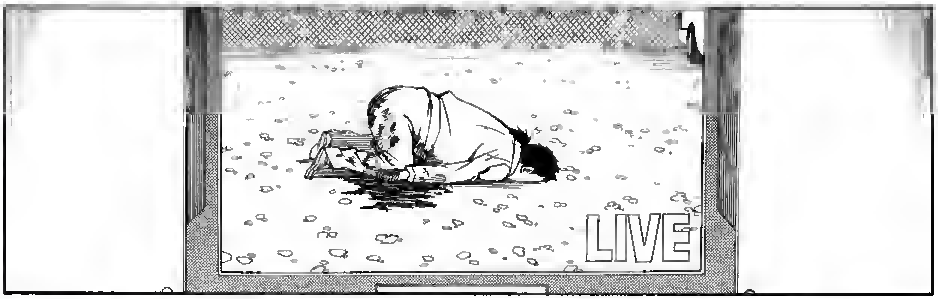

NNGH.
..THIS SUCKS..
ROLL

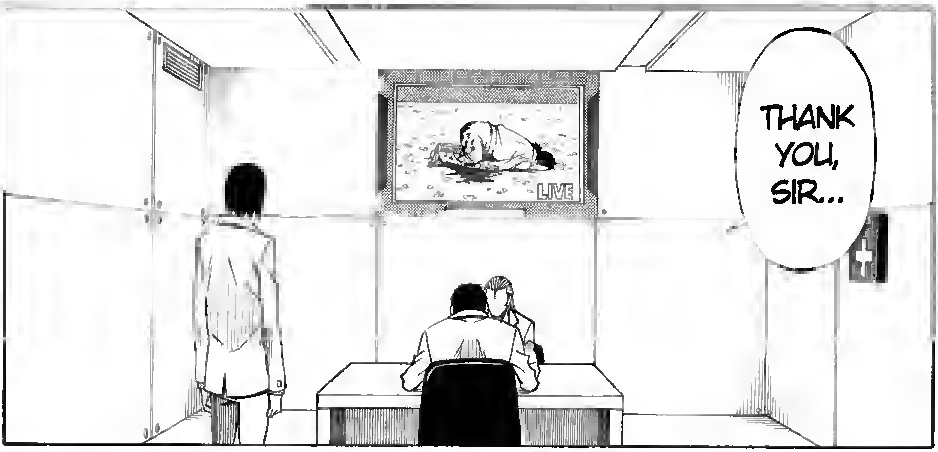
...OR MAYBE TRASH LIKE YOU CAN'T EVER LOVE...
CRICK
CRICK
YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO LOVE...

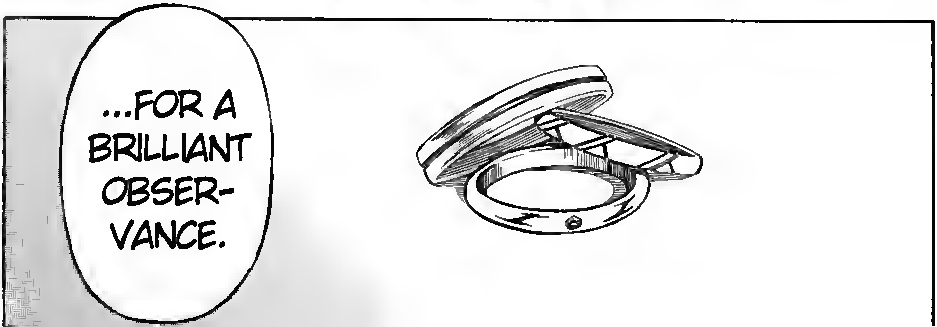
OH MY GOD...
THIS GRANTS HER THE ABILITY TO FREELY DISLOCATE HER JOINTS TO SUIT HER SITUATION.
SHE POSSESSES NEAR-INHUMAN FLEXIBILITY.
THIS IS WHAT... AN ASSISTOR IS LIKE...
SHFF
YOUR LITTLE MAN HERE'S VIOLATED SO MANY INNO-CENTS...
Drip
YOU DO KNOW THIS IS A RETALIATION, RIGHT?
Drip
Drip
Drip
IT'S... SO... COLD...
Tremble
Tremble
SQUISH
P- PLEASE... KILL ME NOW...
I CAN'T... MOVE... MY BODY...
PLEASE...

...SO LET'S SEE HOW YOU LIKE IT...
...BEFORE I SEND YOU OFF TO HELL.
SHIVER
EEEYAAAAH!!

CREAK
キィ
SO THIS IS... A RETALIA-TION...


LIVE

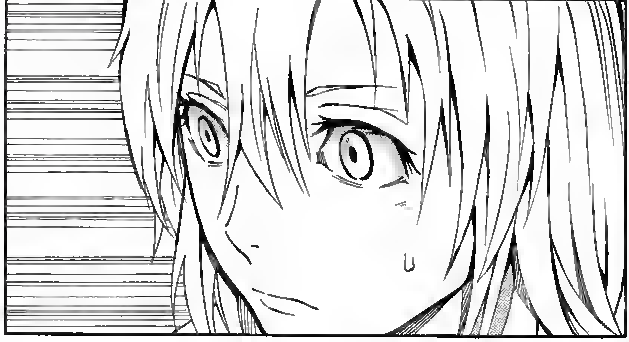

LIVE
THANK YOU, SIR...

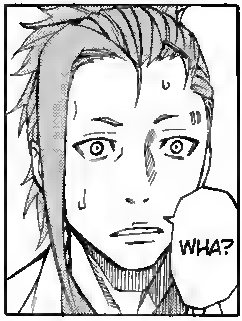

...FOR A BRILLIANT OBSER-VANCE.

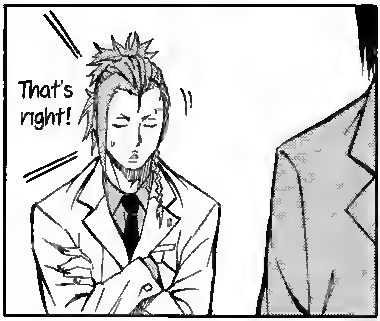
I KILLED SOME-ONE... WITH THESE HANDS...
.....
I TOOK THEIR LIFE...
HNGHK!

HUFF...
HUFF...
キュ
CLUTCH
ポタ
Drip
STAB

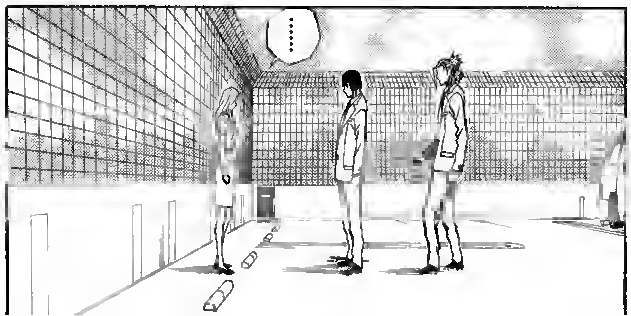
HAGIWARA-SAN'S BEEN LOOKING FOR HIS KNIFE.
KOUTA... SENPAI ...!
SO YEAH... UMM...
...AS YOUR COACH, I GOTTA SAY THIS.
TH-THAT'S RIGHT. ANYONE WOULD FREAK OUT ON THEIR FIRST RETALIATION!




WHA?

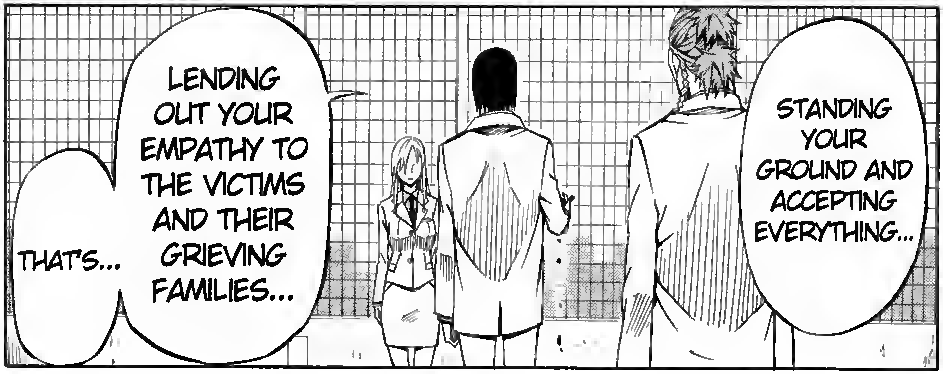

That's right!

THAT'S JUST A COWARD.
THAT'S NOT AN ASSISTOR.
IT WAS ONLY FOR A MOMENT, BUT YOU THOUGHT TO RUN AWAY FROM IT ALL.


.....

RYOKO KOIZUMI.
LEAVE THE ASSISTORS NOW.

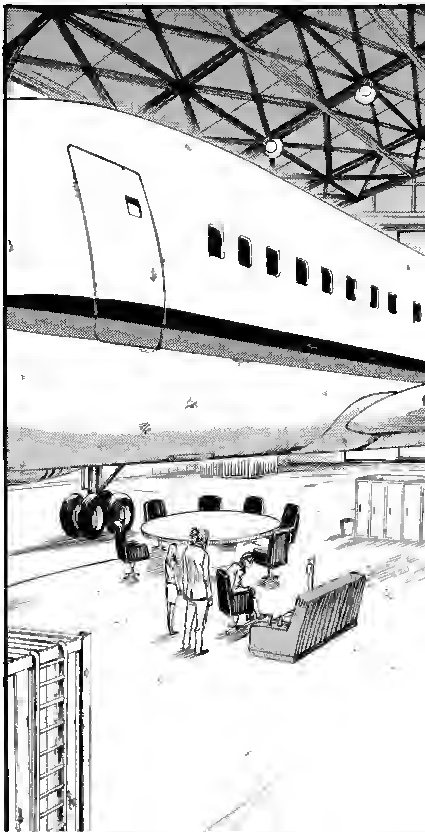
BLEED
BLEED
AS ONE WHO IS CARRYING OUT THE EXECU-TION...
...TO FORGET WHO YOU ARE ON THE FIELD...
...IS TANTAMOUNT TO FORGETTING WHO THE VICTIMS ARE.


STANDING YOUR GROUND AND ACCEPTING EVERYTHING...
LENDING OUT YOUR EMPATHY TO THE VICTIMS AND THEIR GRIEVING FAMILIES...
THAT'S...

...WHO REAL ASSISTORS ARE!

SO MUCH BLOOD !!
OH MY GOD, YUUJI-SENPAI!
Twitch
Twitch
GLURB
GLURB
SNIFF
IT'S TOO CRUEL TO RYOKO-CHAN, DONCHA THINK?
B-BUT... JUST CHASING HER OUT LIKE THIS...
UH, SENPAI?
SENPAI?
THUD

EH, HE'S JUST A TAD ANEMIC RIGHT NOW.



THE KID ALWAYS GETS INTO THIS KIND OF TROUBLE.
HEY, DON'T SWEAT IT.
I... I'M SORRY...
IT'S ALL BECAUSE SOMEONE WENT AND TOOK MY KNIFE.
Lick
YUUJI TENDS TO SACRIFICE HIS ARMS AND LEGS AS PART OF HIS EXECUTION STRATEGY.
AND HE DOES IT LIKE IT'S NOTHING, TOO.
ALWAYS ...?
I'M SURE HE'S SKILLED ENOUGH TO DO THIS JOB INTACT.
WHY WOULD HE FIGHT LIKE THAT?
SACRIFICE HIS ARMS AND LEGS...?
OH NO.
THAT STUFF'S BEEN THERE SINCE BEFORE HE JOINED US.
THEN... ARE THOSE WOUNDS ON HIS ARMS A PRODUCT OF THAT STRATEGY...?

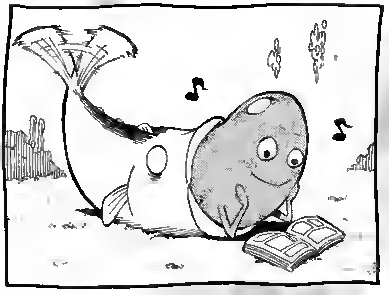
HIS LIMBS DON'T REGISTER ANY PAIN AT ALL.
I CAN TELL, BEING A FORMER DOCTOR AND ALL.
THESE WOUNDS AREN'T JUST FROM SEVERE BURNS.
THEY'RE GRAFTING INJURIES AS WELL.
YUUJI OFTEN SAYS HIS LIMBS ARE ON LOAN, BUT...
...IF THOSE LIMBS ARE TRANSPLANTED FROM A STRANGER, THEN...
...SOMETIMES THOSE LIMBS GET REJECTED.

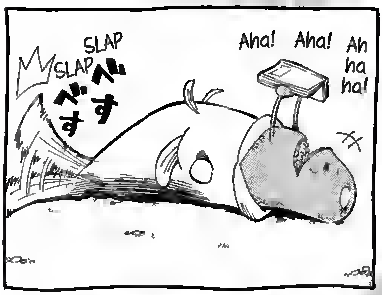
...WHO SEEMS TO KNOW ALL THE DETAILS.
CAPTAIN ODA'S THE ONLY ONE...
IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE HE'S TAKING ANY MEDS TO SUPPRESS IT, EITHER.
I'D SAY THIS KID HERE IS THE QUIRKIEST OF US ALL.
...THE CAPTAIN TOLD US THIS.
THAT REMINDS ME...

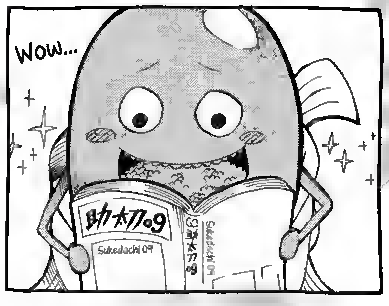
YOU WERE THE ASSISTOR WHO LENT HER EMPATHY OUT TO HIM, AFTER ALL.
...REGARDLESS, HE PLEADED WITH THE WITNESS TO HAVE FAITH THAT YOU'D SEE IT THROUGH.
YUUJI'S A BIT SPINELESS COMPARED TO THE REST OF US, BUT...
DURING YOUR EXECUTION, THE WITNESS TRIED TO LEAVE THE ROOM TO SAVE YOU.
LENDING OUT YOUR EMPATHY TO THE VICTIMS AND THEIR GRIEVING FAMILIES... THAT'S...
STANDING YOUR GROUND AND ACCEPTING EVERYTHING...
...WHO REAL ASSISTORS ARE!
THROB

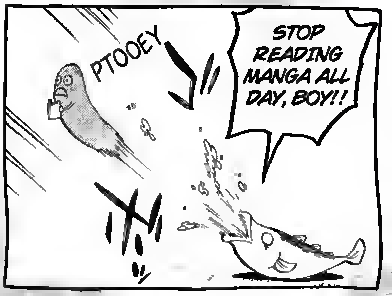
HE MAY EVEN BE A BIT OF A DORK. BUT OTHERWISE...
HE MAY BE SQUIRRELY, AND HE MAY BE A WORRY-WART.
SO KEEP THIS IN MIND.
...YOU'VE GOT YOURSELVES A GOOD SENPAI.
YES, SIR!

ADMIRATION

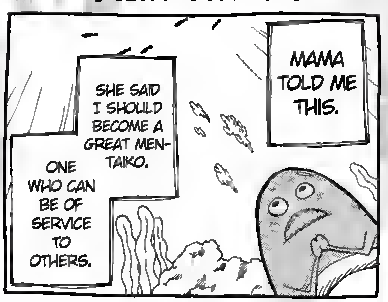


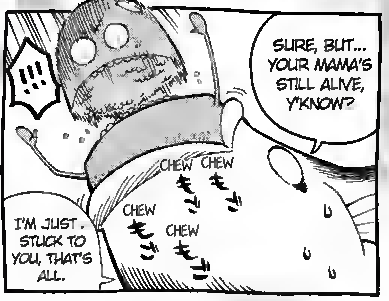


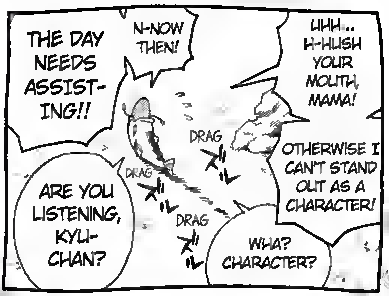




MENTAIKO 09







English Digital Edition
Chapter 004

Sukedachi 09
助太刀09
Seishi Kishimoto

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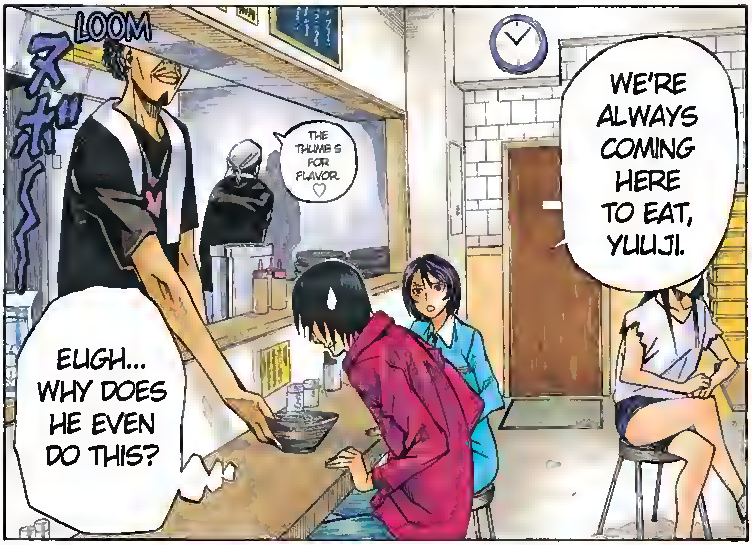
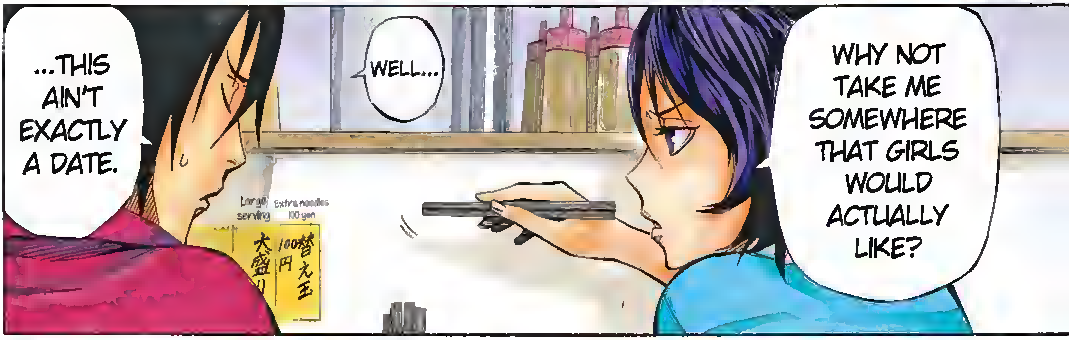
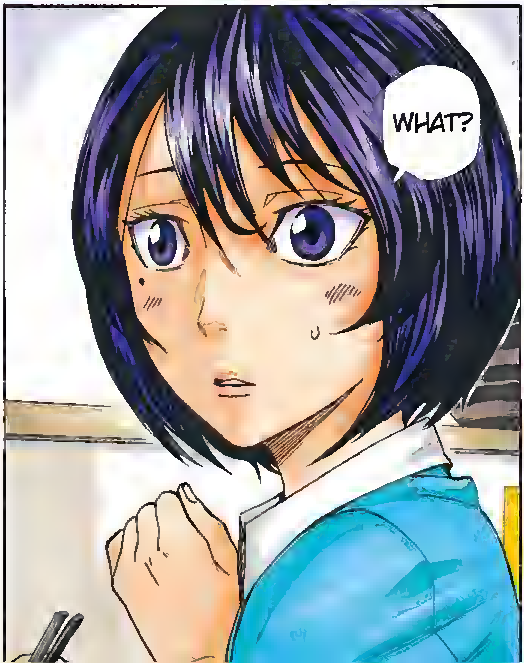
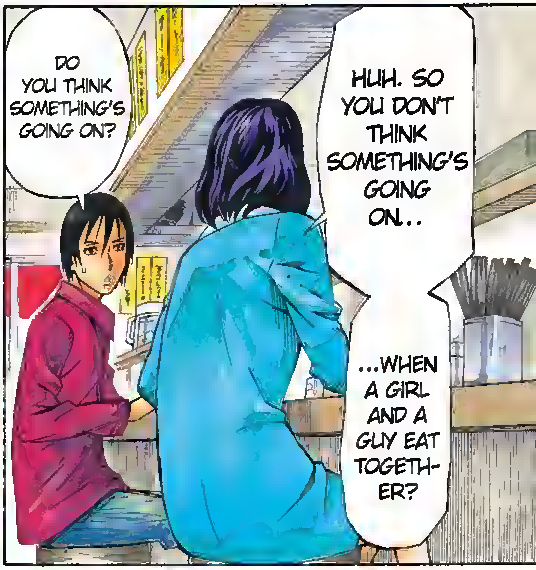
SUKEDACHI NINE
助太刀09


LOOM
スポ～ン
THE THUMB'S FOR FLAVOR. ♡
EUGH... WHY DOES HE EVEN DO THIS?
WE'RE ALWAYS COMING HERE TO EAT, YUUJI.

HERE YOU GO, ONE MIKE CHASHU RAMEN.
SHPLOP
KLONK
ゴットン


...THIS AIN'T EXACTLY A DATE.
WELL...
WHY NOT TAKE ME SOMEWHERE THAT GIRLS WOULD ACTUALLY LIKE?
Large serving
Extra noodles 100 yen
大盛り
100円
替え玉


WHAT?


DO YOU THINK SOMETHING'S GOING ON?
HUH. SO YOU DON'T THINK SOMETHING'S GOING ON..
...WHEN A GIRL AND A GUY EAT TOGETH-ER?

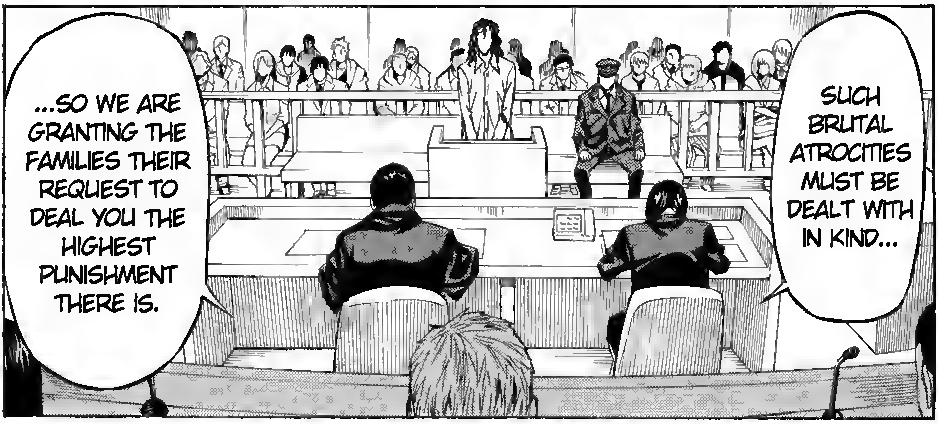
MIRROR:5 "FACE"

THAT'S GYOZA SAUCE, DUDE.
ERK
TUNK
I... I DIDN'T SAY THAT I THINK OF YOU THAT WAY, YOU KNOW!
HARU?
...WE COULD GET A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE FROM THOSE OF THE VICTIMS!
Mike Special -men
Tonkotsu ramen
Fish ra-
600円
600 yen
900円
900 yen
800
IF I MEET THE RELATIVES OF THOSE WHO'VE BEEN EXECUTED BY RETALIATION...
...AND ASK THEM HOW THEY FEEL ABOUT THE LAW...
300円
300 yen
Green onions
Rice
Bean sprouts
Seaweed
Bamboo shoots
Pork
Fish cake
Egg
Fish
.....
TH-THAT REMINDS ME! I'VE GOT AN INTERVIEW TO CONDUCT!
STAND
WHATEVER. IT'S NOT LIKE YOU CARE.
YOU'RE ONE TO TALK, BOZO!
!!
SO NOW YOU'RE COMPARING THINGS, TOO.
GULP

YOU DON'T HAVE ANY FAMILY, AFTER ALL-
DON'T SWEAT IT...
I... THAT WAS OUT OF LINE.

JUDGMENT WILL SOON BE PASSED DOWN ON KAZUAKI OMOKAGE, WHO IS ACCUSED OF PEELING OFF HIS VICTIMS' FACES AFTER MURDERING THEM..
……
Cook Ramen
PA-TAK
OKAY... WELL... I GOTTA GO...
RATTLE
RATTLE
SLAP

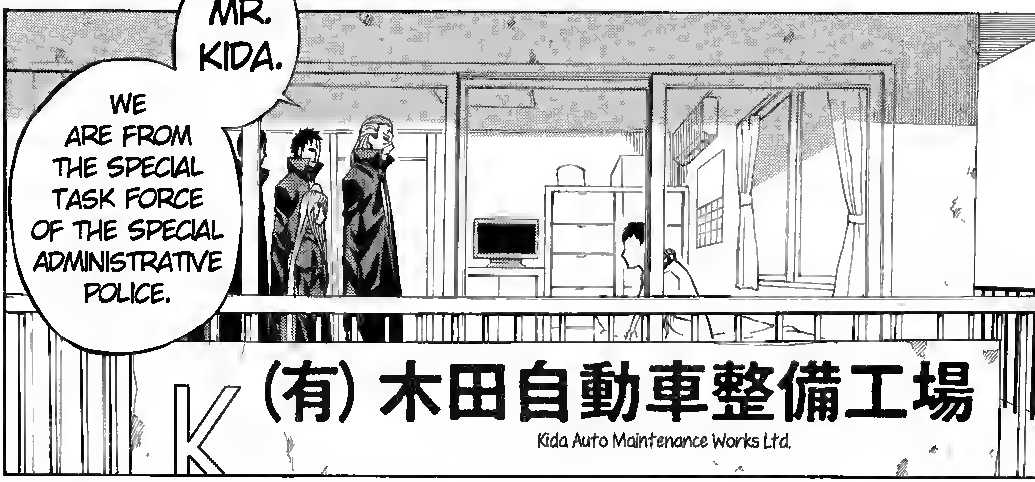
PEELING OFF YOUR VICTIMS' FACES AFTERWARD CAN ONLY BE REGARDED AS UTTERLY INHUMANE.
YOUR CRIMES DIDN'T STOP WITH THE TAKING OF THREE LIVES.
裁判所
Courthouse


...SO WE ARE GRANTING THE FAMILIES THEIR REQUEST TO DEAL YOU THE HIGHEST PUNISHMENT THERE IS.
SUCH BRUTAL ATROCITIES MUST BE DEALT WITH IN KIND...

TURN
Mutter
Mutter
YOU WILL HEREBY BE EXECUTED VIA RETALIATION!
IN CONCLUSION... KAZUAKI OMOKAGE!

IT'S ALL MY FAULT...
EVERY-THING... ALL OF IT...
I'M... TRULY SORRY...
DRIP
DRIP
I'M SO SORRY !!
.....
THOSE TEARS AREN'T FOOLING ANYBODY !!
...AND NOW YOU'RE SORRY ?!
YOU'VE DONE ALL THAT...

K
(有) 木田自動車整備工場
Kida Auto Maintenance Works Ltd.
K
自動車指定
K
木田
Kida


MR. KIDA.
WE ARE FROM THE SPECIAL TASK FORCE OF THE SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE POLICE.
K (有) 木田自動車整備工場
Kida Auto Maintenance Works Ltd.

I DON'T MIND...
.....

BUT WE ONLY WISH TO UNDERSTAND YOUR SITUATION SO THAT WE CAN CHOOSE THE APPROPRIATE ENFORCER FOR YOUR REVENGE.
WE APOLOGIZE FOR BARGING IN EN MASSE LIKE THIS.

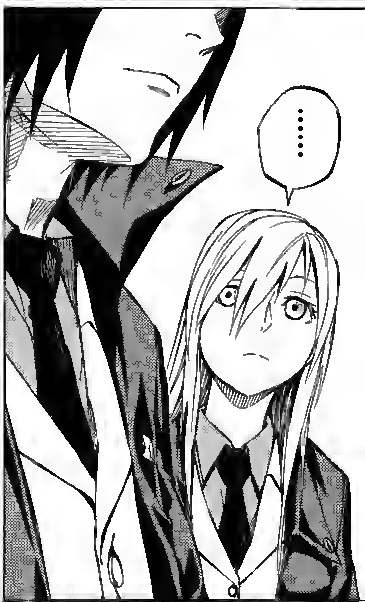
...THEY SUPPORTED MY DREAM OF BECOMING A DOCTOR.
.....
MY FATHER AND OLDER BROTHER...
...IN ORDER TO PUT ME THROUGH COLLEGE.
HE WORKED WITH MY FATHER DAY AND NIGHT...
ガチャ K-CHAK
GRRK ガキ
PARTICULARLY MY BROTHER. HE EVEN GAVE UP HIS DREAMS TO SUPPORT MINE.
SHEESH, ARE YOU STILL WORRIED ABOUT HOW I FEEL?
I SHOULD BE THE ONE THANKING YOU.
SNAP
!
Roll Roll ガラ
HEY! THANKS A BUNCH, KAZUKI!
Got some coffee for you.
GREAT GOING, BRO.

...EVER SINCE WE LOST MOM TO ILLNESS...
...YOU PROMISED TO SAVE THOSE WHO SUFFERED JUST LIKE SHE DID.
AIN'T THAT RIGHT?
BECAUSE OF MY PRIDE...
YEAH, BUT... YOU HAD TO SACRIFICE A LOT.
LOOK, BRO.
RIGHT NOW, THAT DREAM OF YOURS...
...IS EVERY BIT MY DREAM, AS WELL!
HEY, HIROKI! HELP ME OUT HERE!
COMING, POPS!
THANKS FOR THE CAN OF JOE, BRO!
My batteries are freshly charged!
BROTH-ER...
...THANK YOU...

YOUR BROTHER WAS A GREAT GUY, WASN'T HE...?
SOB ...!
...DIED WITH MY... FAMILY...
UGGH ...!
NOW, THOUGH... THAT DREAM...

...THER...
BROTHER !!

!
FOR THIS RETALIA-TION...

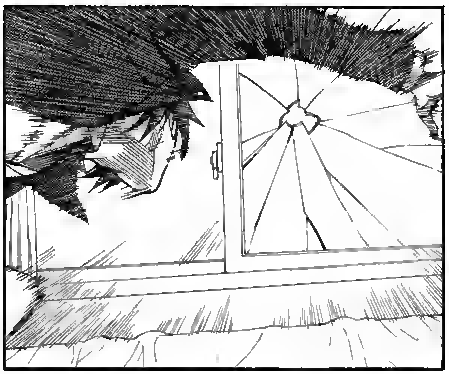

.....

YOU'LL SIT THIS ONE OUT.
SORRY, YUUJI... NOT THIS TIME.
鏡
KYOUGEN WILL PERFORM THIS FOR US.
MY EYES WILL BE WIDE OPEN.
...THAT KEEPS STIRRING ME AWAKE.
THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT THIS PARTICULAR INCIDENT...
C'MON, YUUJI. DON'T GIVE ME THAT LOOK.
.....
...ALLOW ME THE HONOR!

!?
鏡
YUUJI?! WHAT'S ...?!
SHATTER
THUK

KAZU-KI-KUN !!
FLUMP
PITTA PATTA
HGRCK ...!

YOU ALL RIGHT?!



DAMMIT !!
自動車整備工場
Auto Maintenance Works Ltd.

SLIDE

I HEARD THE MAN WHO REQUESTED RETALIATION HAD AN ATTEMPT ON HIS LIFE.
ABOUT YESTERDAY...
INDEED
THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT.
SOMEONE TRIED TO "TERMINATE THE AVENGER."
WE WERE LUCKY THAT HIS LIFE WAS SPARED, THOUGH...
I GET IT...
BUT IT'S ODD, DON'T YOU THINK?
NORMALLY, THOSE WHO'D TRY TO STOP THE RETALIATION WOULD BE FAMILY MEMBERS OF THE CONDEMNED, BUT...
OMOKAGE HAS NO FRIENDS OR FAMILY.

...JUST LIKE THE MOST RECENT VICS.
THEY FOUND HIM WITH HIS FACE PEELED OFF...
HE EVEN KILLED HIS OWN BROTHER ...?
WHO?
...ACTUALLY, NO. HE HAD FAMILY...
Fwip
...BUT HE'S ALREADY BEEN KILLED OFF.
...YOUNGER BROTHER!
OMOKA-GE'S...
...BY EXTREMIST GROUPS OPPOSED TO THE RETALIATION SYSTEM.
IT'S HIGHLY POSSIBLE THAT THIS ATTEMPT MAY'VE BEEN CARRIED OUT...
I PRAY THAT THEY FIND THE ATTEMPTED ASSASSIN QUICKLY...
THE VICTIM'S FAMILY MUST OBSERVE IT.
THERE'S STILL SOME TIME BEFORE OMOKAGE'S RETALIATION.

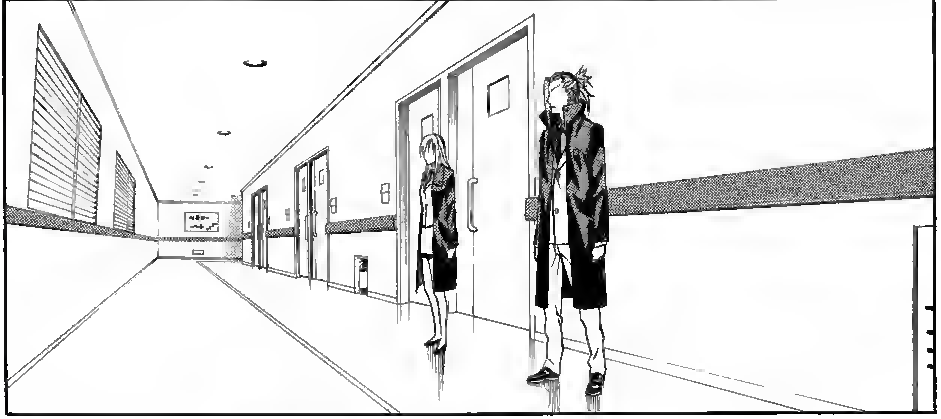
I'VE ASSIGNED THE NEW RECRUITS TO THE TASK AS TRAINING, BUT STILL.
...POST A FEW MORE GUARDS AROUND THAT KAZUKI KID, WILL YOU?
UNTIL THEN...

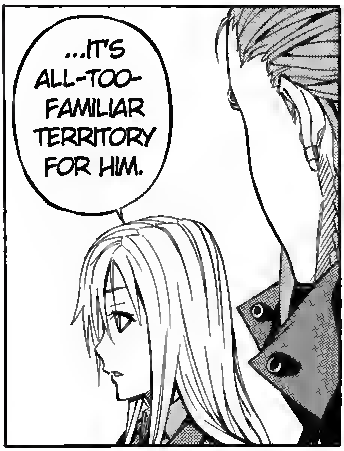
ALTHOUGH ONE GUY...
CAPTAIN! ALLOW ME TO BE ON KAZUKI'S GUARD DETAIL!!

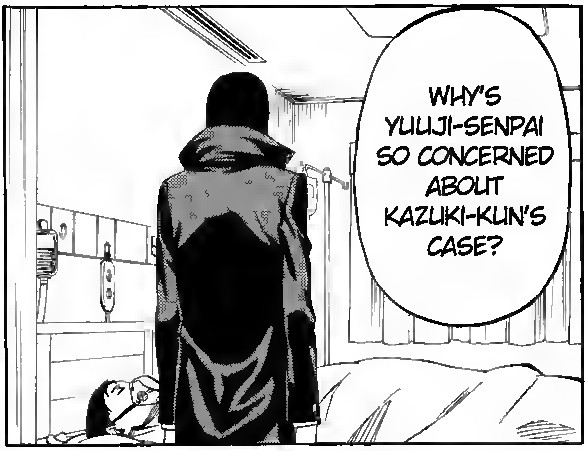
金山病院 No.2
Kaneyama Hospital No.2
...VOLUNTEERED TO BE RE-TRAINED, AS WELL.

20
Mr Ue
上様
20
*1上様 is the Japanese equivalent of John Doe
shuuuuk
シュー
shuuuuk
シュー

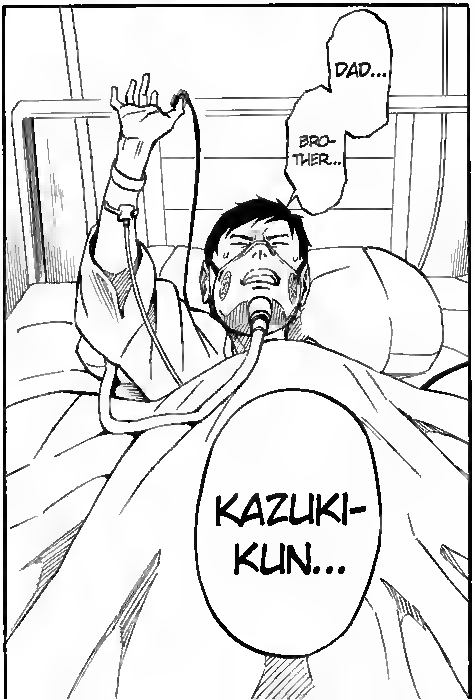
...THEN THE RETALIATION SENTENCE ITSELF WOULD BE NULL AND VOID, AS THERE'S NO ONE LEFT TO HAVE THEIR FEELINGS OF VENGEANCE EXORCISED.
IF THE AVENGER WERE TO PERISH BEFORE THE RETALIATION IS PERFORMED...
...WAS PART OF AN ASSISTOR'S DUTY AS WELL.
I... NEVER IMAGINED THAT SECURITY DETAIL FOR AVENGERS...
20
Mr Ue
上 様
TO CUT OFF THE VERY SOURCE OF CONDEMNATION...
TARGETED BY THOSE WHO HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE CONDEMNED...
THERE WILL BE MORE AVENGERS WHO WILL BE TARGETED LIKE KAZUKI-KUN.
YEAH, WELL... I KNEW THAT!
THAT'S WHAT "TERMINATING THE AVENGER" IS ALL ABOUT.



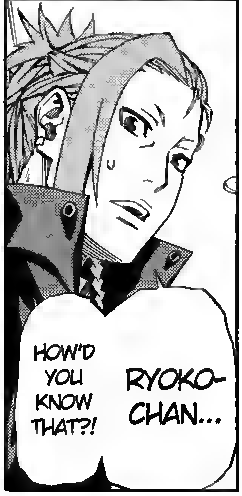

...IT'S ALL-TOO-FAMILIAR TERRITORY FOR HIM.


WHY'S YUUJI-SENPAI SO CONCERNED ABOUT KAZUKI-KUN'S CASE?

...THER...
BRO-THER.
...LOST HIS FATHER AND BROTHER IN A SINGLE INCIDENT. JUST LIKE WHAT HAPPENED WITH SENPAI LONG AGO...


DAD...
BRO-THER...
KAZUKI-KUN...

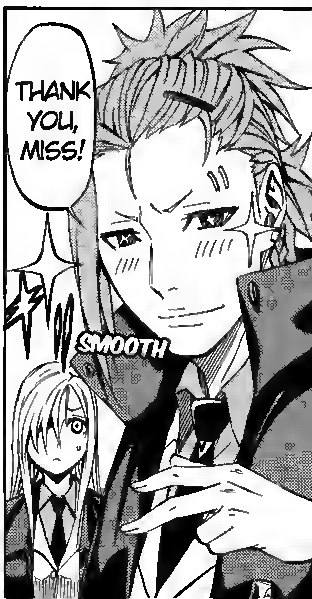
I ASKED CAPTAIN ODA.
OR RATHER... I KINDA FORCED IT OUT OF HIM.


RYOKO-CHAN...
HOW'D YOU KNOW THAT?!

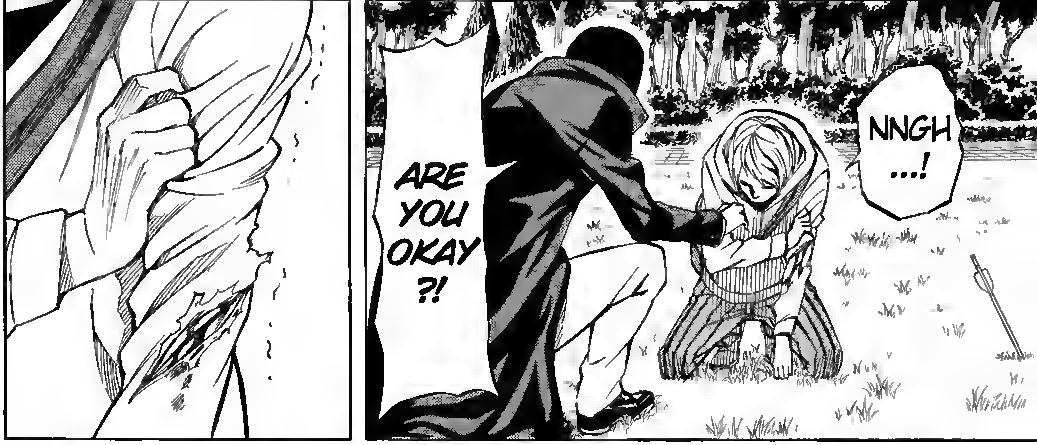
EXCUSE ME...
A RELATIVE OF KAZUKI KIDA-SAMA IS HERE TO PAY HIM A VISIT...?
!
HE'S IN THE CENTRAL GARDEN RIGHT NOW...

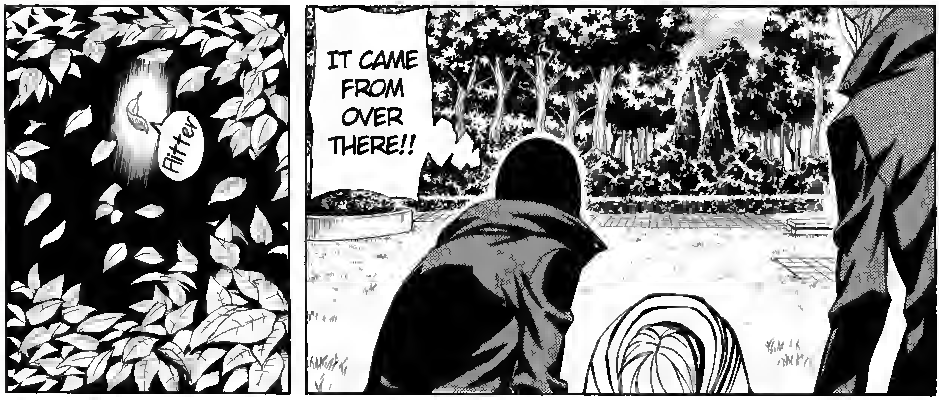
.....

WHERE'S KAZUKI ?!
IS KAZUKI KIDA ALL RIGHT ?!

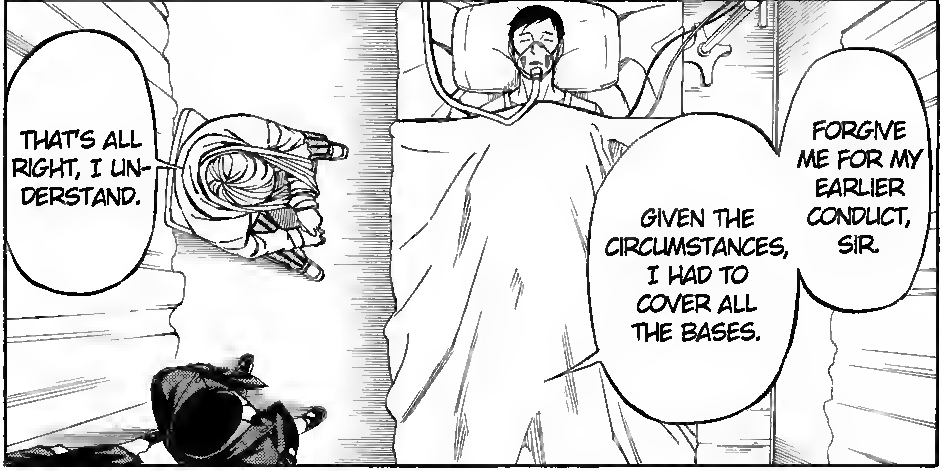

THANK YOU, MISS!
SMOOTH

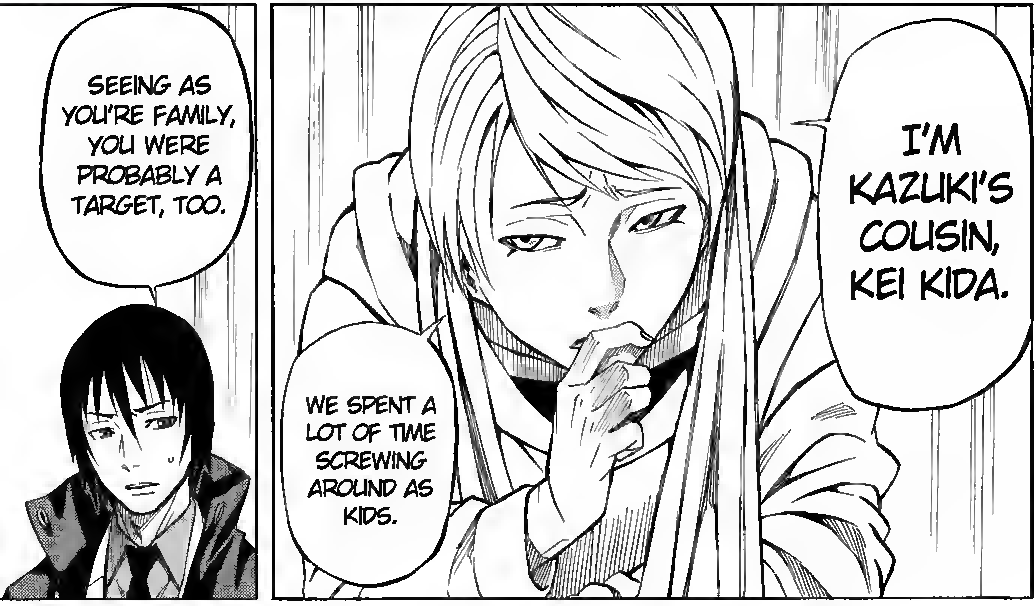
...WHAT'S YOUR RELATION TO KAZUKI-KUN?
AH! I'M KAZUKI'S...
HE IS, BUT...
PARDON ME FOR ASKING, BUT...
PSHEEW
TCH!
!!
A CROSS-BOW BOLT ?!
HGH!
ZWIP
THOK

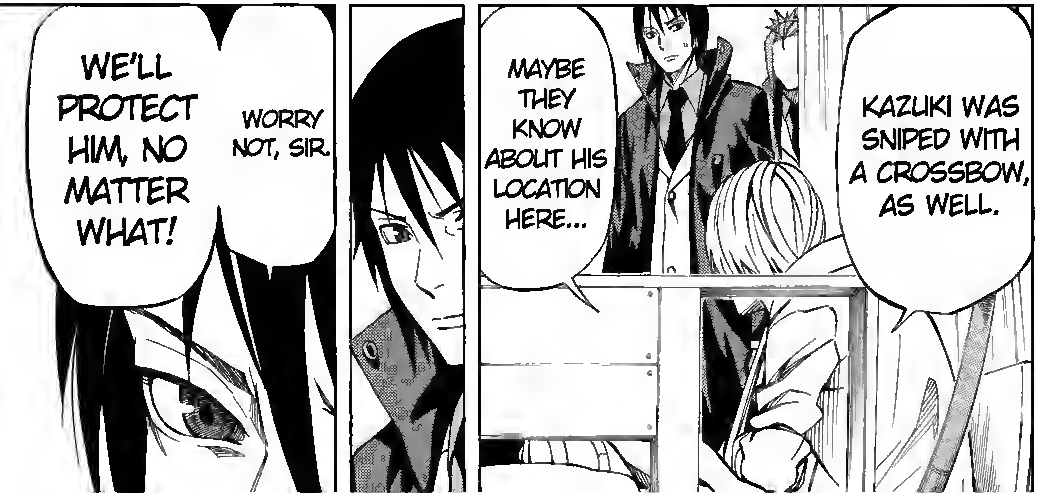

NNGH ...!
ARE YOU OKAY ?!


After
IT CAME FROM OVER THERE!!

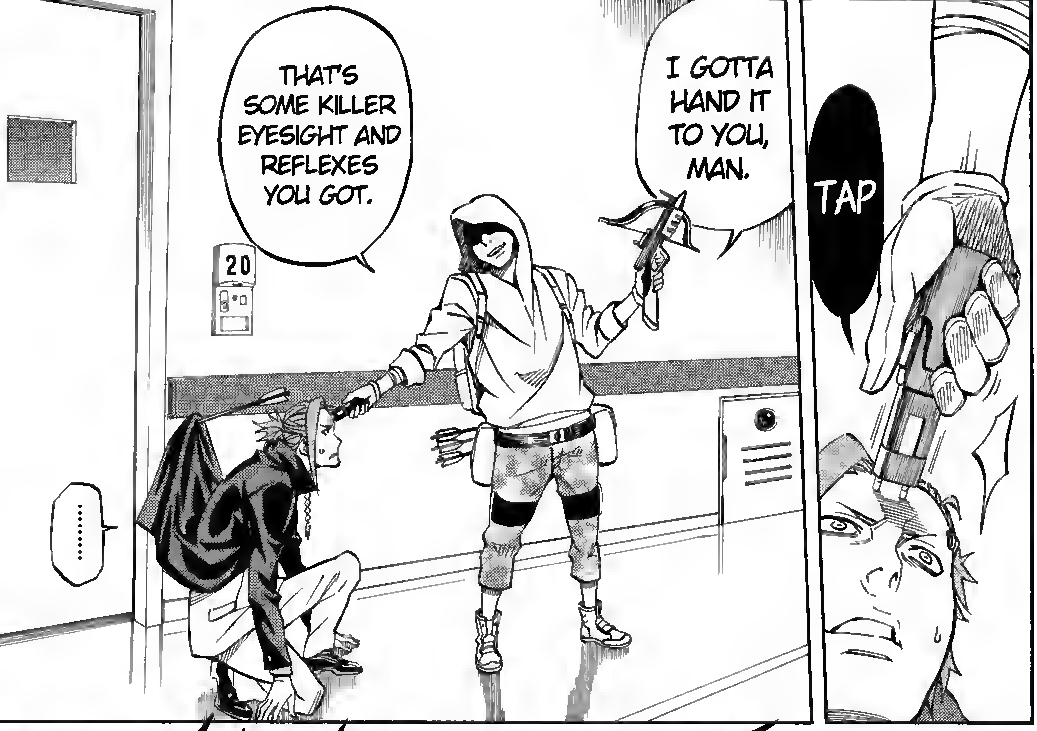
shuuuuk
GET INSIDE NOW!
WE'RE IN DANGER HERE!!
20

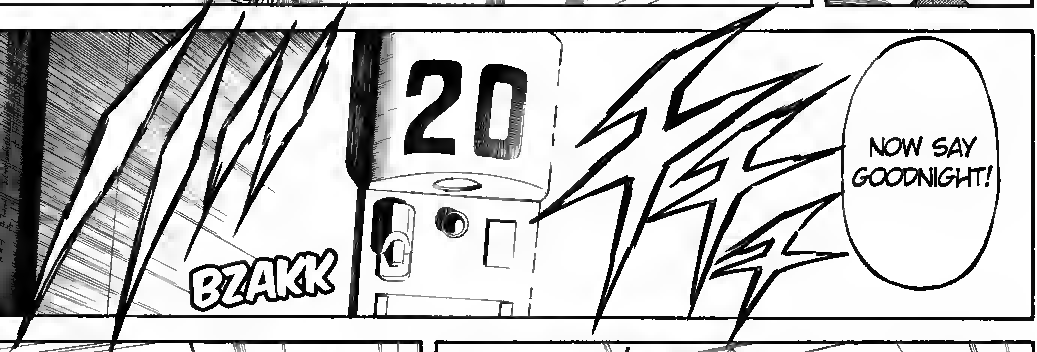

FORGIVE ME FOR MY EARLIER CONDUCT, SIR.
GIVEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES, I HAD TO COVER ALL THE BASES.
THAT'S ALL RIGHT, I UNDERSTAND.


I'M KAZUKI'S COUSIN, KEI KIDA.
WE SPENT A LOT OF TIME SCREWING AROUND AS KIDS.
SEEING AS YOU'RE FAMILY, YOU WERE PROBABLY A TARGET, TOO.


KAZUKI WAS SNIPED WITH A CROSSBOW, AS WELL.
MAYBE THEY KNOW ABOUT HIS LOCATION HERE...
WORRY NOT, SIR.
WE'LL PROTECT HIM, NO MATTER WHAT!

20
上
Mr Ue
金山病院 No2
Kaneyama Hospital No.2
!!
YAAA-WN...
THOSE TWO'RE SURE TAKING THEIR TIME ON THE TOILET.
20
THOK
DUCK
CRAP! THEY'RE HERE!!

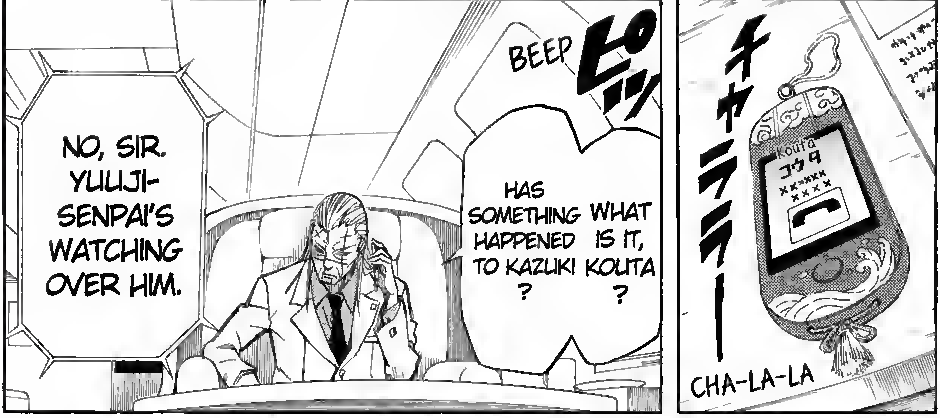

I GOTTA HAND IT TO YOU, MAN.
THAT'S SOME KILLER EYESIGHT AND REFLEXES YOU GOT.
.....
20
TAP

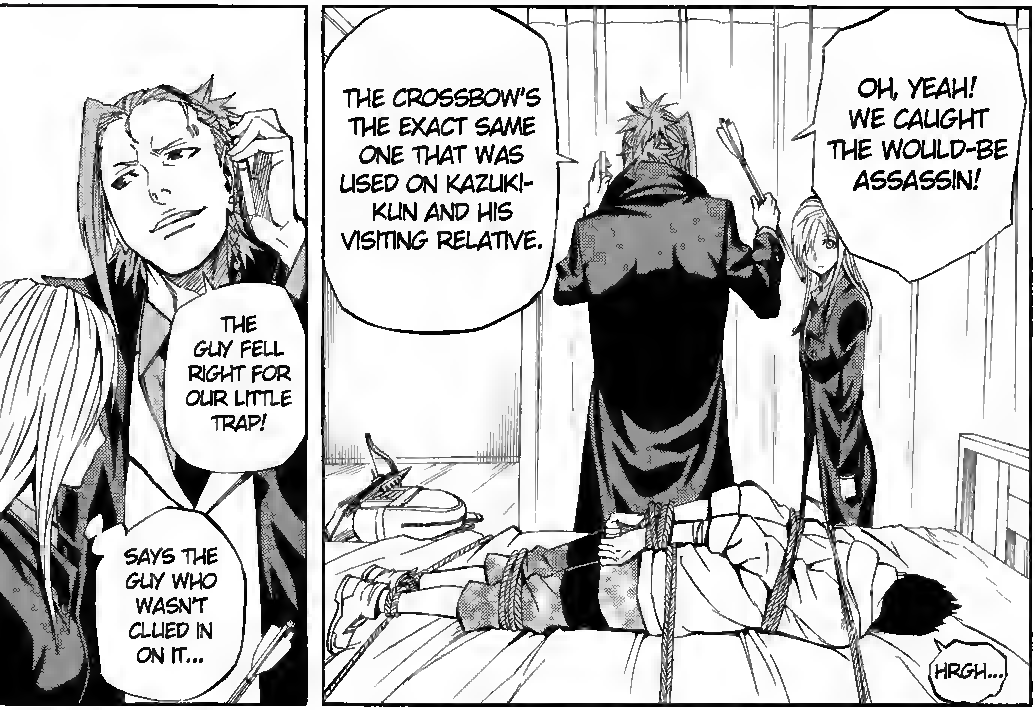

BZAKK
20
NOW SAY GOODNIGHT!

THIS ENDS NOW!
SHAKK

THERE'S ONLY ONE TARGET AROUND. LOOKS LIKE THOSE OTHER TWO REALLY DO TAKE FOREVER ON THE JOHN.
Slip...
UGH.
FATHER...
FRO-THER.

!!?
Wiggle
Wiggle
Float...
BROTH-ER...
FATH-ER..
PRESS
!!
...FOR MAKING IT THIS FAR.
I GOTTA HAND IT TO YOU...
AH CRAP!
SWIPE..
FATH-ER...
BROTH-ER...
BZAKK
NOW SAY GOOD-NIGHT.
KAZUKI WAS MOVED TO ANOTHER ROOM AGES AGO.
SCREE..
H-HOW THE HELL?! WHERE'D YOU COME FROM?!


NO, SIR. YUUJI-SENPAI'S WATCHING OVER HIM.
BEEP
HAS SOMETHING HAPPENED TO KAZUKI ?
WHAT IS IT, KOUTA ?
チャラララー
Kouta
コウタ
CHA-LA-LA


THE GUY FELL RIGHT FOR OUR LITTLE TRAP!
SAYS THE GUY WHO WASN'T CLUED IN ON IT...
THE CROSSBOW'S THE EXACT SAME ONE THAT WAS USED ON KAZUKI-KUN AND HIS VISITING RELATIVE.
OH, YEAH! WE CAUGHT THE WOULD-BE ASSASSIN!
HRGH...

SIR?
WHO WAS HE TARGET-ING?!
NO !!
WAIT... WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY?
UH, WE CAUGHT THE WOULD-BE...

!
HE...
...HAS NO...?
THEN WHO IS THAT GUY...?!
HEH HEH...
LOOK WHO'S CAUGHT IN THE TRAP NOW.
SOME GUY SENT ME A CROSSBOW AND SOME CASH...
...AND TOLD ME TO GO AFTER THESE TWO GUYS OR SOME-THING.
NO WAY...
I DUNNO WHO HIRED ME TO MAKE THE HIT, THOUGH.
KAZUKI KIDA...
...HAS NO RELA-TIVES!!

7
Shuffle
IT'S A GOOD THING THAT HITMAN HAD NO CLUE THAT I SET HIM UP TO GO AFTER ME. AS WELL.
THIS CONCENTRATED POTASSIUM SHOT SHOULD DO THE TRICK.
HEH HEH HEH...
PUKU
...DON'T SUSPECT A THING!
THANKS TO THAT, THOSE IDIOT GUARDS...
DRIP
DRIP
YOU CAN KEEP THAT PRETTY FACE WELL INTO THE AFTER-LIFE...
KAZUKI KIDA!
PIIP

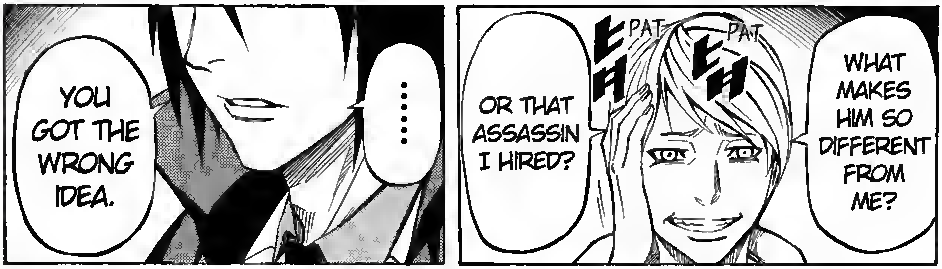
KICK
GHA-UGH!
WHAM
YOU!
WHAT KINDA VACCINE WERE YOU PLANNING TO ADMINISTER?
KA-TING

WHO ARE YOU?!
YOU WERE THE ONE WHO ATTACKED KAZUKI WITH THAT CROSSBOW, WEREN'T YOU?
.....
WH-WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL, MAN?
ISN'T KICKING ME LIKE THAT A BIT EX-TREME?
KAZUKI WAS SNIPED WITH A CROSS-BOW, TOO.
THAT BIT ABOUT THE CROSSBOW WAS CLASSIFIED INFORMATION.
HOW THE HELL DID YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT?
THEN ANSWER THIS.
!!
AND ONE OTHER THING... YOUR NAME ISN'T KEI KIDA.
I'M KEI KIDA...
PEOPLE UNCONSCIOUSLY COVER THEIR MOUTHS WHEN THEY LIE.
THEY ALSO LOOK TO THEIR UPPER RIGHT WHEN THEY'RE ACTIVATING THEIR IMAGINATION DURING A CONVERSATION.

I KEPT THOSE TWO IN THE DARK FOR NOW.
I COULDN'T TIP YOU OFF TO MY PLAN.
NOT UNTIL I COULD CONFIRM MY SUSPI-CIONS.
.....
THEN THOSE OTHER TWO GUARDS...
HEH...
HEH HEH ...
HAH HAH HAH HAH !!
LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE...
...WHO I COULD NEVER FOOL!
NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I THANGE MAH FAYTHE !!
STREEEETCH
ストーーーッチ

YOUR MOTIVES FOR ATTACKING KAZUKI-KUN...
WHAT YOU JUST SAID...
CHANGED... YOUR FACE?!
...YOU ARE...
THEN THAT MEANS...
KAZUAKI OMO-KAGE'S...
...BROTH-ER?!
...WAS MY ORIGINAL FACE!
THE ONLY THING HE KILLED...
...BUT THEY SAID HE KILLED YOU...

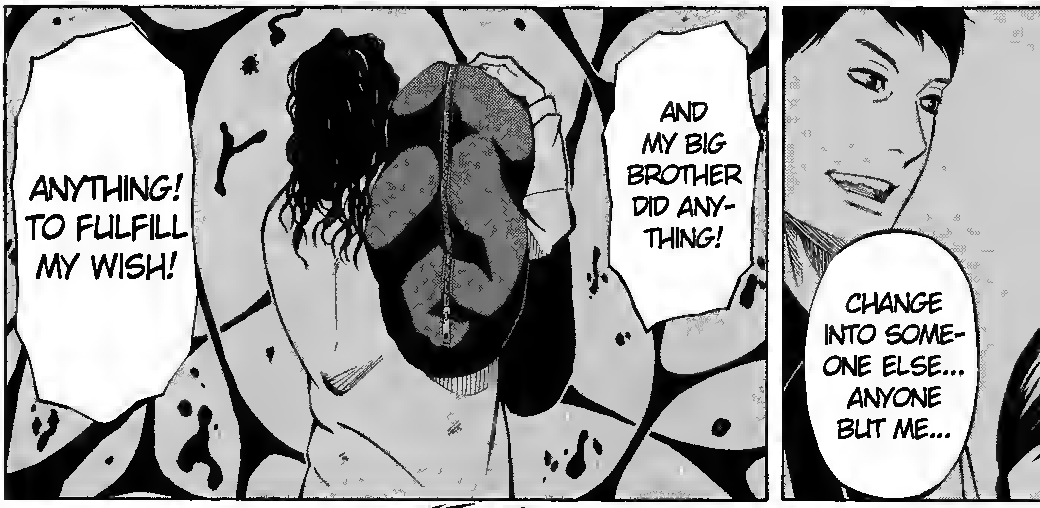
...SO HE COULD EASE HIS OWN SUFFERING, AM I RIGHT?
THIS KID ONLY ASKED FOR MY BROTHER TO BE EXECUTED BY RETALIATION...
TERMINATING THIS AVENGER MAKES SENSE NOW.
HMPH!


YOU GOT THE WRONG IDEA.
.....
OR THAT ASSASSIN I HIRED?
PAT
PAT
WHAT MAKES HIM SO DIFFERENT FROM ME?

...THE PAIN SUFFERED WHEN THEY LOSE A LOVED ONE...
NO MATTER HOW HARD PEOPLE TRY...
...NEVER DISAP-PEARS!
AVENGERS DON'T ASK FOR RETALIATION FOR THEM-SELVES!
THEY DO IT TO EXORCISE THE MORTIFI-CATION SUFFERED BY THOSE THEY LOST !!

WHAM
I GET IT NOW. THE REASON YOU'RE ALL PROTECTING THIS KID...
...IS 'CUZ YOU'RE ALL ASSIS-TORS!
SWIP
YOU GUYS ARE THE REAL MUR-DERERS HERE!!
SHANK
GRIP
KAZUAKI OMOKAGE'S MY ONLY FAMILY, Y'KNOW.
HE LOVED ME LIKE ONLY A BROTHER COULD.
IF THAT'S WHY YOU WANT TO STOP THE RETALIATION...

GRIP
I ONLY WANTED TO CHANGE, Y'KNOW.
Oh my God, what a creep!
TWIST
YOU'RE GETTING THE WRONG IDEA HERE!
HAH HAH!
TWIST


ANYTHING! TO FULFILL MY WISH!
AND MY BIG BROTHER DID ANY-THING!
CHANGE INTO SOME-ONE ELSE... ANYONE BUT ME...

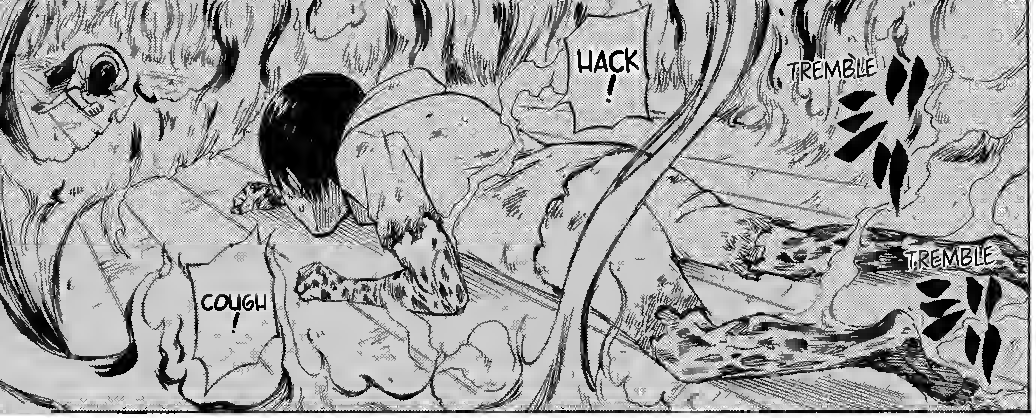
I WANTED PEOPLE DEAD SO I COULD CHANGE INTO THEIR FACES !!
THOKK
THAT'S RIGHT! I ASKED MY BROTH-ER TO COMMIT THOSE CRIMES !!

UP 'TIL NOW, I'VE CARVED OFF SO MANY FACES TO PUT ON, BUT...
ズリ ズリ
SLITHER SLITHER
YOU'RE THE CAUSE OF ALL THIS!!
THEN IT'S YOU!
HRGH!
BUT AS TIME GOES BY...
...MY BODY BEGINS TO REJECT THE FACES, AND THEY TURN TO CRAP.
...ONCE BROTHER GOT CAUGHT, I REALIZED SOMETHING.
TAP
THE ONE THING I WAS TRULY, TRULY AFTER...
SLIIICE
...WAS THE VERY FACE OF MY OWN BELOVED BROTHER!!

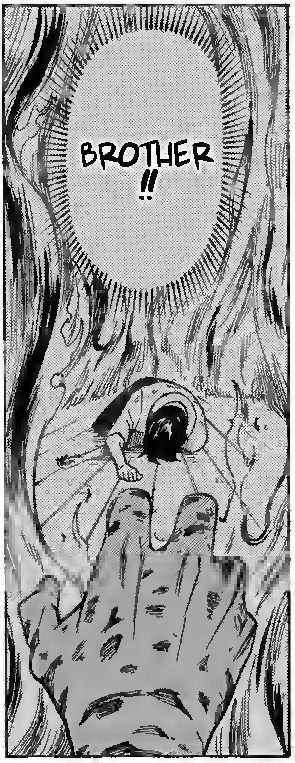
BROTHER'S RETALIATION IS GOING TO END WITH HIS FACE CARVED OFF, RIGHT?
THAT WON'T DO...
...BECAUSE IF YOU HAPPEN TO SCAR IT UP, THEN YOU'LL HAVE PRACTICALLY RUINED IT FOR ME.
SO YOU SEE...
SLURP
I NEED TO MAKE SURE HE GETS HANGED INSTEAD.
STAGGER
.....
THAT'S YOUR MOTIVE ...?
THAT'S THE REASON...
...YOU WANTED KAZUKI KIDA TER-MINATED?!

STAB
...'CUZ I DON'T LIKE IT!!
DON'T ACT LIKE YOU'RE ANY DIFFERENT THAN ME...
OH-HO? WHAT'S WITH THAT LOOK NOW?
RATTLE
!!
I NEVER KNEW ASSIS-TORS COULD BE THIS WEAK!!
HAH HAH HAH!
THE LOOK ON HIS FACE WILL BE PRICELESS!
HEY, KIDDOS! YOU'RE JUST IN TIME FOR THE SHOW!
HE'S GOTTA BE WRITHING IN PAIN ...!
!!
SENPAI!!

WH-WHAT THE HELL?!
WHAT'S UP WITH YOUR FACE?!
...EVER SINCE A CERTAIN INCIDENT...
...I'VE LOST ANY SENSATION OF PAIN IN MY ARMS AND LEGS.
FWOOM
ゴオオオオオオオオオ
...JUST SO YOU KNOW...
OOOOM
CRACK


HACK!
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
COUGH!

SIZZLE
BROTHER!!


BROTHER!!

DON'T DIE ON ME!!
FSHHHH

FWOOM
BRO--

HOW-
EVER...

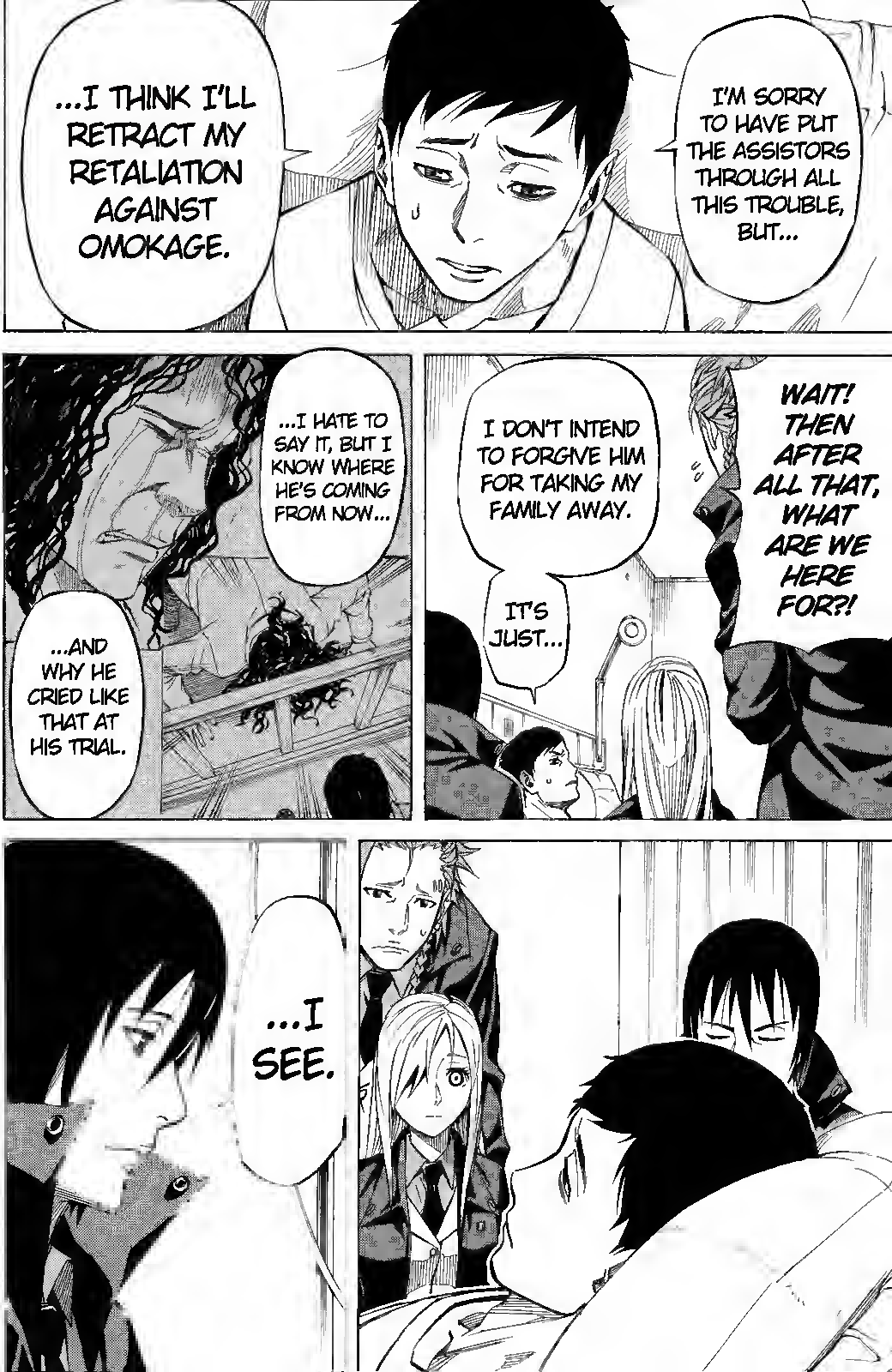
WHAT'S UP WITH HIS GRIP?! EVEN AFTER I STABBED HIS ARM?!
GRRK
GRRK
...JUST TO GET ME TO TALK?!
NO WAY... HE LET ME STAB HIM TO HIDE HIS POWER...
CLENCH
NONE OF THIS IS FOR SHOW...
GRAB
...THE PAIN IN MY HEART HAS NEVER DULLED!
...IS THE FACTOR..
THIS PAIN...

...THAT LETS THE VICTIMS' FACES BECOME MY OWN !!

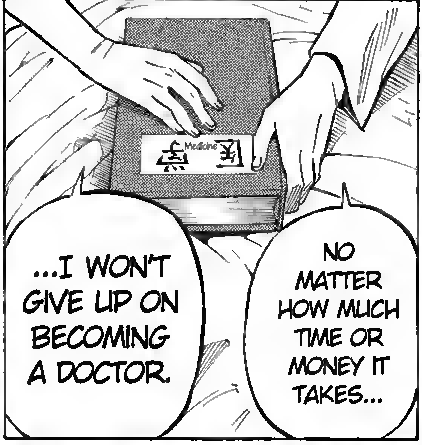
WHAM
SLUMP
Clatter
Clatter
I WEAR THEIR PAIN...
IT'S BECAUSE WE ASSISTORS KNOW THEIR PAIN.
CRACK

...ON MY OWN FACE!!
SENPAI...
ドサッ
FLUMP

KAZUAKI OMOKAGE DIDN'T COMMIT THOSE CRIMES FOR HIMSELF...
...BUT FOR HIS BROTHER ?
I SEE...
DRIP
YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO WAIT FOR YOUR OBSERVANCE DAY WITHOUT ANY TROUBLE NOW.
WE HAD KAZUAKI'S BROTHER ARRESTED.
HE TOOK HIS BROTHERLY LOVE WAY TOO FAR.
WHA ?!
!?
...I CHANGED MY MIND.
...ACTU-ALLY...


...I THINK I'LL RETRACT MY RETALIATION AGAINST OMOKAGE.
I'M SORRY TO HAVE PUT THE ASSISTORS THROUGH ALL THIS TROUBLE, BUT...
...I HATE TO SAY IT, BUT I KNOW WHERE HE'S COMING FROM NOW...
...AND WHY HE CRIED LIKE THAT AT HIS TRIAL.
I DON'T INTEND TO FORGIVE HIM FOR TAKING MY FAMILY AWAY.
IT'S JUST...
WAIT! THEN AFTER ALL THAT, WHAT ARE WE HERE FOR?!
...I SEE.

...THAT'S THE DREAM I SHARED WITH MY BROTHER.
Got some coffee for you.
PLAP
Heegh!
BE-CAUSE...


...I WON'T GIVE UP ON BECOMING A DOCTOR.
NO MATTER HOW MUCH TIME OR MONEY IT TAKES...

GRIP
YOUR DREAM WILL COME TRUE.

GUESS I'LL TAKE A NAP...
THANK YOU...

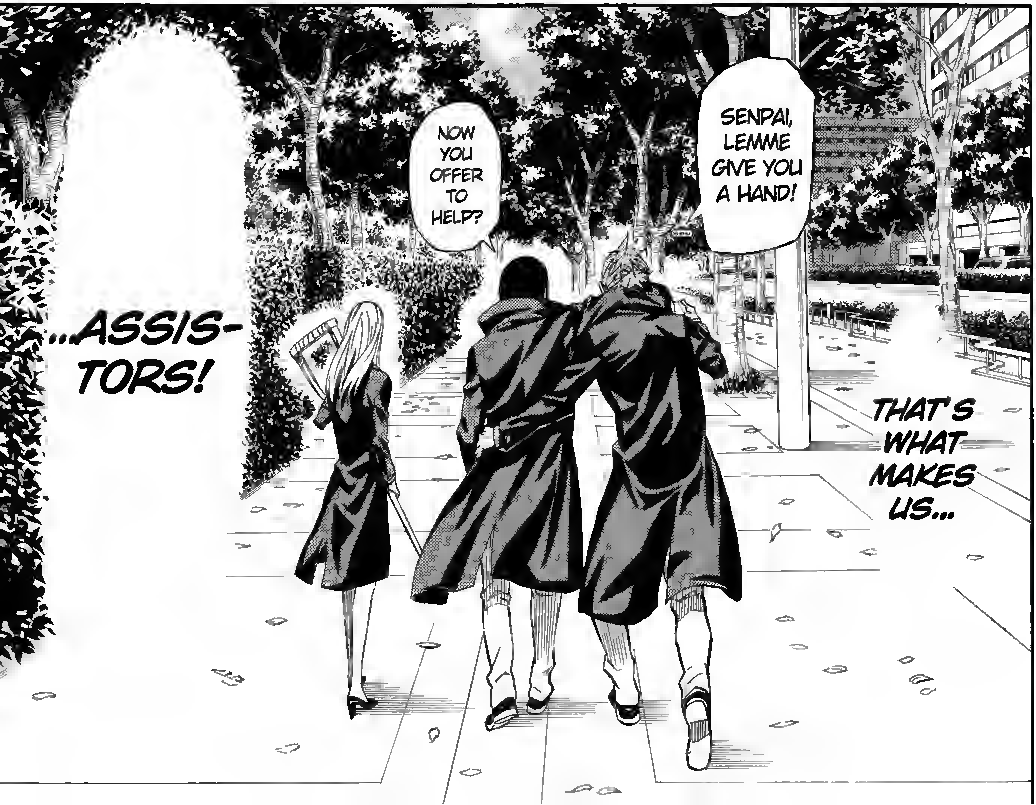
YOU HAVE IT IN YOU.
I'M SURE YOU'LL MAKE IT.

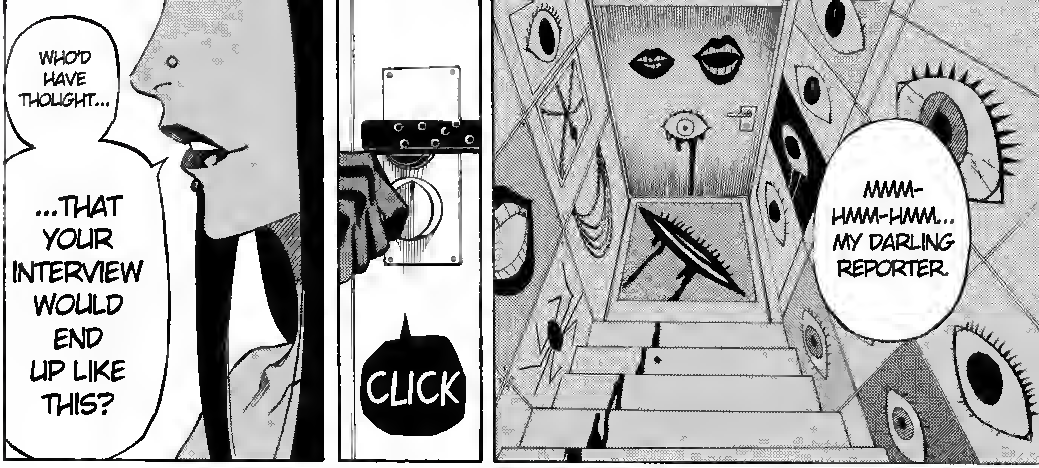
KOUTA...
I STILL DON'T GET IT!
SENPAI!
TAK
.....

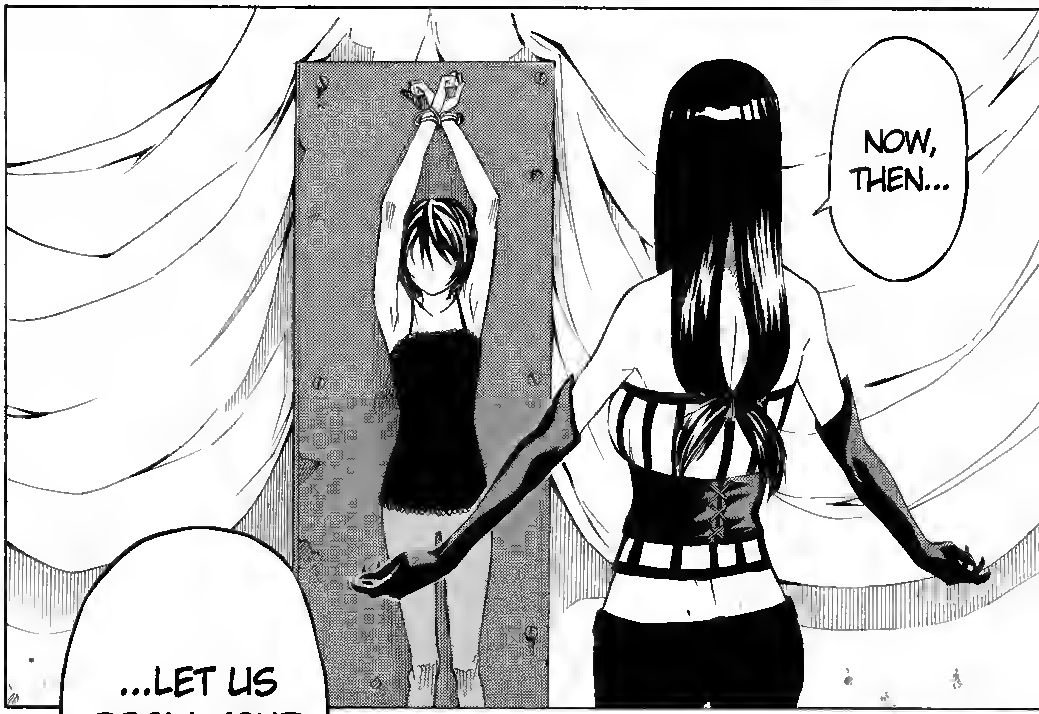
DO WE EXIST...
...JUST TO CARRY OUT RETALIATIONS?

...THE PAIN IN MY HEART HAS NEVER DULLED.
GRRK
GRRK
EVER SINCE A CERTAIN INCIDENT, I LOST ANY SENSATION OF PAIN IN MY ARMS AND LEGS.
HOW-EVER..

...AND SAVE THEM FROM THEIR SUFFERING!
THAT'S RIGHT! WE EXIST TO EMPATHIZE WITH THE VICTIMS...


...ASSIS-TORS!
NOW YOU OFFER TO HELP?
SENPAI, LEMME GIVE YOU A HAND!
THAT'S WHAT MAKES US...





SUKEDACHI 09 (VOL.1) END

SUKEDACHI NINE
助太刀09

NEXT : 助太刀09
Sukedachi 09
HARU'S LIFE IS IN DANGER!!
YUUJI ...!
LIKE, I SAID... NO ONE'S GONNA HELP YOU NOW...
A MURDERER WHO TARGETS JOURNALISTS...
JOURNALISTS ARE HERE TO RIGHT THE WRONGS IN THE WORLD!!
YOU'RE WRONG !!
KEEP OUT
NEED TO TASTE THE FEAR-
OH, THOSE PEOPLE IN THE OBSERVANCE ROOM...
WHAT IS THE TRUTH BEHIND THE FELLED ASSISTOR?!
WHAT OCCURED THREE YEARS AGO...
HASHIBA...
TRIED TO BECOME THE BRIGHT SPOT IN THAT FAMILY'S LIFE...
AND
THE STORY BEHIND THE FIRST EXECUTION
BY ANOTHER NEW ASSISTOR...
another side mirror:3,4
TAROU...
I CAN'T ASSIST IN THIS !!
I CAN'T...
助太刀09
VOLUME TWO!!
DON'T MISS OUT!!

INNER JACKET

COMMENT

岸本聖史
SEISHI KISHIMOTO

Thanks to all who bought this mongo!! Hope you keep supporting it! I wonno be someone who shoulders the words "MANGA" on my back, too!

※ THIS INNER JACKET WAS INCLUDED WITH THE TANKOBON EDITION WHEN IT WAS FIRST SOLD.

COVER PAGE

[Special Administrative Police, Special Task Force]

Code-named "the Assistors," Combat specialists recognized by the government to carry out retaliatory executions in the place of families of the victims. All Assistors have been victimized by crime in the past much like their clients. As a result they hold a deep hatred of crime and empathy for the victims and their families, allowing them to risk their lives when carrying out executions.

[Assistor]

Code name of the Special Administrative Police Special Task Force, Combat specialists recognized by the government to carry out retaliatory executions in place of families of the victims. All Assistors have been victimized by crime in the past, much like their clients. As a result, they hold a deep hatred of crime and empathy for the victims and their families, allowing them to risk their lives when carrying out executions.

[Death by Retaliation Act]

A law enacted in 2015 C.E. to cure violent crime. A type of capital punishment wherein the perpetrator is executed in the exact same matter that they murdered their victims. Acts as a deterrent to violent crime, as many criminals fear their own executions in this manner.

[AA Incident]

One incident that led to the establishment of the Death by Retaliation system. Officially referred to as the "Advent Angel" Incident. The perpetrator behind the incident sought the "advent of an angel"; through this, the incident was given its name.

[Rise in Violent Crime]

One of the causes behind the enactment of the Death by Retaliation Act. The government in its struggles to find a deterrent to the recent increase in violent crime, modified Article 36 of the Constitution to revive and legalize the "Death by Retaliation" system, which had existed up to the dawn of the Meiji Era.

[Declining Birth Rates]

One of the causes behind the enactment of the Death by Retaliation Act. As fewer children are brought into this world, they are increasingly becoming involved in violent crimes. To decrease victimization of these children, the government modified Article 36 of the Constitution to revive and legalize the "Death by Retaliation" system, which had existed up to the dawn of the Meiji Era.

[Population Decline]

One of the causes behind the enactment of the Death by Retaliation Act. The government in its struggles to prevent further decimation of an already-dwindling population to crime, modified Article 36 of the Constitution to revive and legalize the "Death by Retaliation" system, which had existed up to the dawn of the Meiji Era.

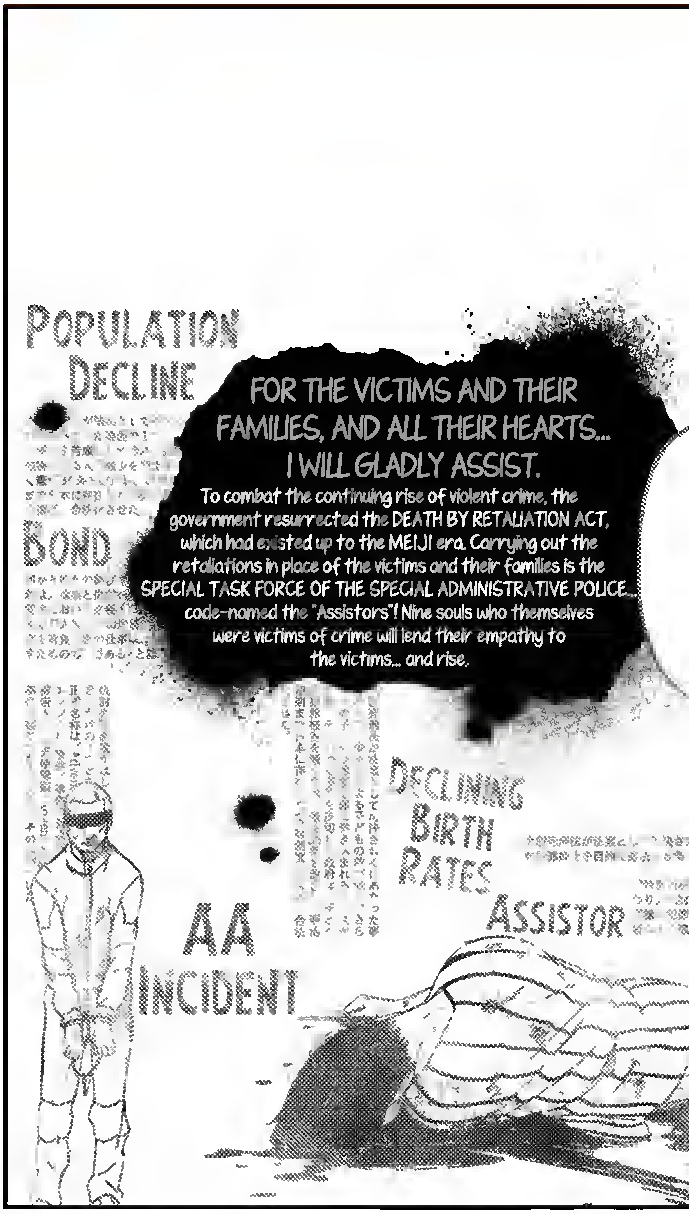
[Bond]

A word that indicates a connection between two things. It is vital in the relationships between victims and their families as well as with the Assistors who carry out retaliations in their names. Assistor No.7 - Yuuji Yamaguchi - had stated that "by shouldering the words Sukedachi' on my back, my job as Assistor is a bond to help bring the hearts of others back to life."

※ This inner jacket was included with the tankobon edition when it was first sold.

BACK COVER

...STABBED FIVE TIMES IN THE CHEST... TWICE IN THE ABDOMEN...
AND
DEATH BY RETALIATION ACT
HER ARMS AND LEGS WERE
YOU WILL HEREBY BE EXECUTED BY RETALIATION!!
IN CONCLUSION... KAZUAKI OMOKAGE!
SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE POLICE
SPECIAL TASK FORCE
RISE IN VIOLENT CRIME


POPULATION DECLINE
BOND
FOR THE VICTIMS AND THEIR FAMILIES, AND ALL THEIR HEARTS... I WILL GLADLY ASSIST.
To combat the continuing rise of violent crime, the government resurrected the DEATH BY RETALIATION ACT, which had existed up to the MEIJI era. Carrying out the retaliations in place of the victims and their families is the SPECIAL TASK FORCE OF THE SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE POLICE... code-named the "Assistors"! Nine souls who themselves were victims of crime will lend their empathy to the victims... and rise.
DECLINING BIRTH RATES
ASSISTOR
AA INCIDENT

※This back cover was included with the tankobon edition when it was first sold.

Extra Contents END

English Digital Edition
Chapter 005

Sukedachi 09
助太刀09
Seishi Kishimoto

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